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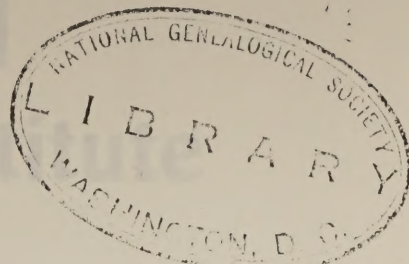


PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL INSTITUTE

January 10 and 11, 1958

Baton Rouge, Louisiana LA

Sponsored by the
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
and
GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION
of
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
in cooperation with
THE LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society
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Banquet, MRS. CHARLES J. REDDY
Exhibits, WILLIAM KING HUNT
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Genealogical and Historical Society
Co-chairman, MRS. T. P. HEARD
Program Chairman, MRS. MARY ELIZABETH SANDERS

Proceedings
of the
**First Annual
Genealogical Institute**

Vol I



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INTRODUCTION

Mrs. Alice H. Chilton
President
Louisiana Genealogical and
Historical Society

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. As President of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, it is a pleasure for me to open this first annual Institute, which is being sponsored by the History Department and the General Extension Division of Louisiana State University.

The Society appreciates the contribution of each of you in making this meeting possible. We thank the University for wonderful cooperation and we thank every person on the program and every person who worked on arranging it. Last, but not least, we thank each one of you for coming to the Institute.

WELCOME

J. W. Brouillette, Director
General Extension Division
Louisiana State University

As you probably know, one of my responsibilities as Director of the General Extension Division of Louisiana State University is to extend a word of welcome to the various groups of Louisiana citizens who attend conferences on our campus. It is difficult, indeed, not to fall into a stereotyped kind of welcome talk. Fortunately for me, and for you, this morning there are present two distinguished members of the faculty to assist me in extending greetings to this most interesting group. You will in reality receive a triple greeting. In due time I shall present to you Dr. Charles E. Smith, the distinguished Dean of the University, a historian and scholar who certainly knows the value of the type of research needed in genealogical studies. Dean Smith, as you know, was formerly Head of the History Department of this University and is known throughout the country for his scholarly books. In addition to Dean Smith, Dr. Edwin A. Davis, a distinguished scholar and now Head of our History Department, will, on behalf of the History Department, also welcome you to our campus.

Since there are three members of the faculty to welcome you, I shall make mine very brief, but before I forget it, I want you to know that you are welcome to the University and that you are always welcome. The citizens of Louisiana really need not be welcomed every time they come to Louisiana State University for this is their University and they are always welcome. We have, however, a number of participants in this conference from sister states, and on behalf of the University, I wish to extend to them a special welcome.

I cannot refrain, before I introduce Dean Smith, from telling you that I am intrigued with your program and the purpose of your Association. It is fitting, I believe, that you should have your conference on this campus because Louisiana State University has played an important part in the development of our State and our people. My personal hobby is early Louisiana history, and I know that any genealogical study of Louisianians must be intimately related to the early history of our unique state. One of the very first explorers of lower Louisiana, who came up the Mississippi River, Sieur D'Iberville, had a prophetic vision of what would happen in this part of our great country. He envisioned a great civilization, rich farm lands cultivated, cities distributed up and down the great river, and a profitable commerce between Louisiana and France.

D'Iberville was at least partly right. However, he did not foresee that Napoleon, to keep England from grabbing this Empire, would sell, not only Louisiana, but nearly the whole of the interior of present day United States, for the paltry sum of \$15,000,000.00.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are welcome to this great University, now worth in physical assets alone, five or six times the amount Napoleon received for the whole of the territory. If there is anything that has not been done that we can do to make your stay pleasant and productive, please call on us.

WELCOME

Charles E. Smith
Dean of the University
Louisiana State University

It is a great pleasure to be here this morning to extend a welcome to the Louisiana Genealogical Institute. I assure you we will do all we can to make this meeting a rewarding experience and your stay on the campus pleasurable.

Approximately 300 institutes, conferences, and short courses are held on the campus each year, most of them in our Adult Education Center operated by the General Extension Division. These conferences represent many facets of Louisiana's business, industry, and agriculture. Agencies of the State government, and, of course, many organizations stemming from the whole educational system likewise gather on the campus, some of them in established series that have continued for a number of years.

When a group such as yours meets for the first time on the campus, we are particularly pleased, for we thus have reason to feel that our opportunities for service and for the exercise of an educational influence are being further extended.

As an historian, I naturally recognize in genealogy a subject not only of intrinsic interest and importance but also an indispensable auxiliary to history. History is really cumulative human experience in the framework of time and place. The historian quite properly seeks underlying causation and attempts to identify and interpret social, economic, and cultural trends and patterns. There is always the accompanying danger, however, that in his quest for interpretation the historian may de-humanize his story, forgetting that history is man's story so long as his mind and spirit can influence its course, so long as there is an area of judgment and decision of acquiescence or rejection.

In conferences of industrial groups, I have occasionally made an observation that perhaps is relevant to this gathering. The great paradox of the Industrial Revolution that transformed our civilization by the machine is that the more mechanized we become, the more we depend upon human beings. The machine has not replaced man; it has constantly demanded more of him in skill, ingenuity, and adaptability. Automation will not make automatons of us; history assures us that it will not.

Genealogy, then, it seems to me, has an interest and timeliness far beyond mere antiquarianism. People and families are our society--functionally and historically. We are what we are because we are who we are.

I note by glancing through your program that the Committee has done a fine job of planning. Some most interesting topics have been selected, and you are fortunate.

IMMIGRATION IN FRENCH LOUISIANA

Otis Hebert
History Department
Louisiana State University

I. Introduction

- A. Louisiana has a rich cultural heritage
- B. Periods
 - 1. Period of settlement, 1699-1712
 - 2. Period of proprietorship under Crozat, 1712-1717
 - 3. Period of proprietorship under Company of Indies, 1717-1731
 - 4. Last years of French rule, 1731-1762

II. The Period of Settlement, 1699-1712

- A. Fort Maurepas (Biloxi), 1699
 - 1. Founded by Pierre le Moyan, Sieur d'Iberville
 - 2. 300 colonists in 4 ships
 - 3. Return trips for supplies and colonists
 - 4. Later important colonists
 - a. Chateauguay, young brother of Iberville and Bienville
 - b. Juchereau de St. Denis, pioneer
 - c. Le Sueur, geologist
 - (1) Brought men and means to develop mines
- B. Tonty and the coureurs de bois
 - 1. Valuable as experienced frontiersmen
 - 2. Tonty died 1704 of yellow fever
 - 3. Settlers from Kaskaskia and Vincennes and other northern settlements of New France were first settlers of Pointe Coupee
- C. First family in Louisiana
 - 1. Nicolas de La Salle brought wife and 2 children at Fort Louis de la Mobile, March 19, 1702
- D. Pleas of Iberville, leaders, and priests
 - 1. First wives - 1704
- E. First Creole birth - Jean Francois Le Camp, October 4, 1704
- F. Yellow fever epidemic (1704) - 35 died
- G. Census of 1704 (Mobile)
 - 1. 180 men bearing arms
 - 2. 27 families - 3 girls and 7 boys
 - 3. 40 Canadains

4. 16 laborers
5. 4 ecclesiastics (1 Jesuit, 3 priests)
6. 8 officers, 72 soldiers
7. 14 naval officers and sailors
8. 10 shipboys
9. 6 young Indian slave boys, 5 Indian slave girls
10. 80 thacted houses

H. Census of 1706 gives names of colonists

1. La Salle
2. Le Camp (only list Jean and Jean Francois)
3. Roy
4. Trudeau
5. May
6. Brossard
7. Coulomb
8. Lafreniere
9. La Loire
10. Perro
11. Renaud

I. Conditions in 1712

1. Four settlements
 - a. Fort Louis de la Mobile
 - b. Fort Maurepas (Biloxi)
 - c. Dauphin Island
 - d. Fort de la Boulaye
2. Population
 - a. 100 soldiers
 - b. 75 Canadians performing services for King
 - c. 100 Indian slaves
 - d. 20 Negro slaves introduced from West Indies in some way or other
 - e. 300 inhabitants
 - (1) Along Gulf coast and up Mississippi as far as Pointe Coupee
 - (2) Probably not more than 50 persons in present limits of Louisiana

J. Summary of period

1. Slow progress
 - a. Louis XIV not interested in colonization
 - b. Search for riches
 - c. Settlers not best kind
 - (1) Unruly under discipline
 - (2) Disliked work except hunting and fishing
 - (3) Liked to drink

III. Louisiana, A Proprietary Colony Under Crozat, 1712-1717

A. Provisions of charter

1. Send two shiploads of settlers a year
2. Slave trade monopoly - could bring one shipload a year

- a. Slaves needed in colony
- b. Indian slaves not satisfactory
 - (1) Expensive
 - (2) Poor field hands
- c. 1708 - 80 Indian slaves at Mobile and Biloxi
- d. 1710 - 110 at Mobile alone; 118 among other settlements
- e. Could not exchange Indians for Negroes in West Indies

B. Progress under Crozat

- 1. Slow, more interested in mines
- 2. Two new settlements: Natchez and Natchitoches
- 3. Most important colonists
 - a. Dubreuil: later richest planter in Louisiana, 500 slaves
 - b. d'Artaguet, colonial official, took part in Chickasaw wars
- 4. Population: "700 souls, of all ages, sexes, and colors"

C. Evaluation of Crozat's regime

- 1. Two new settlements
- 2. Population increased from 300 to 700

IV. Louisiana Under the Company of the Indies, 1717-1731

A. Provisions of charter

- 1. To send 6000 whites and 3000 blacks

B. Immigration under Company of the Indies

- 1. 1718 - 800 persons, doubled the population
 - a. 148 sent to Natchitoches under Bernard de la Harpe
 - b. 68 families remained in New Orleans
- 2. 1720 - 1,000 French and 500 Negroes
 - a. 300 located at Natchez
 - b. 160 in Tunica country
 - c. 250 on Le Blanc grant in Yazoo country
- 3. Types of immigrants
 - a. Criminals and convicts
 - b. Prisoners released
 - c. Prostitutes
 - d. Reformatories raided
- 4. Hardships
 - a. Driven along roads of France like droves of cattle
 - b. Packed in ships
 - (1) Captain paid according to number brought over
 - (2) Hygienic conditions bad
 - (3) Food mouldy and impure
 - (4) Water stale and impure
 - c. Dumped on white sandy beaches of Biloxi and Mobile
 - (1) No food or shelter
 - (2) Subsist best way possible

5. Mistake to send criminals and settlers of bad character
 - a. 1720 forbid the sending the undesirables to colony
 - (1) 1821, 80 girls from reform institution sent
 - (2) Not known how many actually in institution
 - (3) Under charge of 3 nuns
 - (4) Discontented and most returned to France
6. Concessions - large grants of land given to wealthy and nobles
 - a. Provision: must send settlers to cultivate and develop estates
 - b. Earliest concessions
 - (1) Law at Arkansas
 - (2) Le Blanc at Yazoo
 - (3) d'Artaguet at Baton Rouge
 - (4) Coly at Natchez
 - (5) Duverney at Pointe Coupee
 - (6) Vilemont at Black River
 - (7) Chaumont at Pascagoula
7. Redemptioners
 - a. Pledged labor and service to one who paid passage
 - b. Carried no implication later on
8. Advertising Louisiana
 - a. Pamphlets and hand-bills all over Europe
 - b. Sample advertisement: They said that four crops could be raised a year. The Indians were very friendly and did most of the work. There was plenty of game, including deer, bear, and "whole swarms of wild fowl." It was simply "impossible to picture the abundance of this country."
 - c. Many disappointed, but remained
9. German immigrants
 - a. Sent by Law to concession in Arkansas
 - b. Also settled above New Orleans at "Cote des Allemands"
 - c. Count d'Arensburg
 - (1) Swedish nobility
 - (2) Forceful personality
 - (3) Military and political leader
 - d. Natural truck farmers
 - e. Industrious and soon wealthy - Cote d'Or
 - f. Changed names to French approximations
 - (1) Troxler to Trosclair
 - (2) Huber to Oubre
 - (3) Dubs to Toups
 - (4) Faulkner to Faulk
 - (5) Wichner to Vicknair
 - (6) Hummel to Hymel

10. Filles a la cassette (1728)

- a. Poor but of good character and family
- b. Each supplied with a small box (cassette) containing clothes
- c. Under charge of Ursulines

11. Negro slaves

- a. Did not begin earnest importation until 1721
- b. 1721 - brought 1,312
- c. Over 6,000 during period

C. New Orleans founded, 1718

1. Grew rapidly

- a. 1722 made capital
- b. Population
 - (1) 1722-72 civilians (50 families with 38 children), 28 European workers, 177 Negro slaves, 21 Indians
 - (2) 1727- 729 Masters, 65 laborers, 127 Negroes 17 Indians

2. First inhabitants

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| a. Le Blanc | i. Michel |
| b. Carriere | j. Dupuy |
| c. Chauvin | k. Didier |
| d. Belair | l. Moreau |
| e. Labbe | m. Petit |
| f. de Mandeville | n. Laurent |
| g. Bernard | o. Gautier |
| h. Menard | p. Thomasson |

D. Evaluation of period

- 1. More settlers than previous 18 years
- 2. Exact number of immigrants not known
- 3. Population increased from 700 to 7,500

V. The Last Years of French Rule, 1731-1762

A. Bienville dispatch (1735)

B. Census of 1744 (Vaudreuil)

- 1. Twelve posts and districts
- 2. 3,200 whites, 800 soldiers, 2,000 blacks
- 3. Decline since 1731
 - a. Long Indian wars during administrations of Perier and Bienville
 - b. Not enough new comers to offset those lost

C. Last immigrants

- 1. 1751 last shipload sent by France
 - a. 60 marriageable girls
 - b. Each couple allotted "land, a cow and a calf, a cock and five hens, a gun, an ax, and hoe;" and during the first three years rations were issued to them, with a small quantity of "powder, shot, and grain for seed."
- 2. First Acadians
 - a. Fortier: 4 families (20 persons) from New York, April 6, 1704

b. Martin: 1765 as year first Acadians reached Louisiana

(1) Gives no authority

3. Several families from Lorraine to German Coast (1754)

4. Refugees from Fort Duquesne area after captured by British in 1758

D. Officers at end of French Period

1. Macarty, Aubert, Trudeau, Le Blanc, Vidrine, Pellerin, Adam, Laforest, Boudin

VI. Conclusion

A. Creoles descendants of casket girls, prostitutes and girls taken from prisons and reformatories

1. Some truth in statement

2. Creoles can still be proud of heritage

B. Settlers attracted to Louisiana

1. Adventurers, such as Coueurs de bois

2. Professional soldiers bored during times of peace

3. Criminals who accepted exile rather than life in prison

4. Fortune seekers, especially under Crozat

5. Riff-raffs and criminals

a. Colonies dumping grounds for people of bad character

(1) Australia

(2) Georgia

(3) Numerous other colonies

6. Casket girls, redemptioners

C. Effect of these different groups

1. Louisiana a melting pot

2. Frontier conditions tended to weed out the unfit

3. In fusing process much true metal resulted

COLONIZATION OF SPANISH LOUISIANA

Edwin A. Davis
Head, History Department
Louisiana State University

- I. Introduction: Louisiana historians have generally placed the halo of romance upon the French period of Louisiana history, have written critically, if not with hatred, of the early years of the Spanish regime, and have treated the decades following 1770 with a somewhat casual indifference.
 - A. Spanish period least understood era in Louisiana history
 - B. Many misrepresentations
 - 1. Population, character of
 - a. Antoine Bernard, Histoire de la Louisiane, "majority French, Canadians, Acadians," with a few Spanish
 - 2. Economic condition -- agriculture, trade, commerce
 - 3. Impression of complete French Creole domination in everything except government
- II. Louisiana at beginning and at end of Spanish Period
 - A. Louisiana at arrival of Ulloa, March, 1766
 - 1. After 67 years of French occupation
 - 2. Population about 7,000 (2/5 to 1/2 free and slave Negroes) a. Estimates from 6,000 to 13,500
 - 3. New Orleans about 3,000 (2/5 Negro)
 - 4. Bemis state flatly that "misgovernment and neglect had made it a pauper province."
 - B. Louisiana on November 30, 1803 - End of Spanish occupation
 - 1. After 37 years and 8 months of Spanish occupation
 - 2. Population about 50,000 (about 2/5 free and slave Negroes) a. Estimates from 45,000 to 52,000
 - 3. New Orleans about 10,000 (2/5 Negro)
 - C. Percentage of increase of population - contrasted with American states, 1764-1800
 - 1. Louisiana -- approximately 700%
 - 2. Virginia -- 450%
 - 3. North Carolina -- 400%
 - 4. Maryland -- 350%
 - 5. Massachusetts and Pennsylvania -- 175%
- III. Spanish Immigration Policy
 - A. Set by Ulloa and continued to end of era
 - 1. Every Spanish governor issued immigration and land-grant regulations
 - 2. None repressive; all favorable to immigrants

B. Incentives to Immigration

1. Liberal land policy

a. Land grants of sufficient size

1. Example: 1792

2 person family -- 300 acres

4 person family -- 400 acres

10 person family -- 600 acres

15 person family -- 1,000 acres

2. Later --

200 acres for man & wife; 50 acres additional
for each child

b. Titles to land -- Example: Narcisse Carriere, Opelousas District

1. November 24, 1777 -- Requested grant for a specific tract

2. November 28, 1777 -- Certificate of Commandant de Clouet, identifying the land

3. February 26, 1778 -- Order for the survey given by Governor Galvez

4. November 28, 1778 -- Certificate of de Clouet, stating that he had fixed the boundaries in presence of Carriere and his neighbors

5. June 23, 1781 -- Title from Galvez to Carriere Title later honored by U. S. Government

2. Royal bounty grants of money

3. Supplies, tools, livestock, food for 6 months or until first crop, other assistance

4. Few restrictions as to nationalities in specific areas

a. Americans forbidden in Natchitoches District in 1785

1. Area reserved for Germans, French and Hollanders

b. Nationalities usually mixed without pattern

1. Example: Sabine Strip area

5. Freedom of worship

a. Little said about it until middle 1790's

b. Restrictions after this time -- but not enforced

C. Spanish immigrants much more liberal than French

IV. Peoples who came to Louisiana during Period

A. Acadians

1. From France, West Indies, American seaboard, Canada

2. Period of greatest migration, 1765-1785

3. Numbers - estimates - Rene Cruchet, France et Louisiane, 2,000 to 7,000 or more

4. Rapid increase - Cruchet: "by a phenomenon of extraordi- nary fecundity."

B. Spanish

1. Majority from Cataluna, Malaga, Valencia, Southeastern coastal regions, Canary Islands (Islenos)

2. Settled in rural areas and in New Orleans (Catalan merchant class)

3. Many more Spanish came than intimated in histories

C. Americans (Most amazing feature of Spanish Immigration)

1. General fear of English and Americans, after 1783
2. Migration began in 1763 after French & Indian War
3. Royalists and slackers during the Revolution
4. From all states, particularly New York, Maryland, Pennsylvanis, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee (Both Catholic and Protestant)
5. Dutch, Germans, Scotch - Irish via Pennsylvania
6. Companies: South Carolina and Yazoo Company
Baron de Bastrop
Marquis de Maison Rouge
7. Where they settled
 - a. Florida Parishes (Feliciana District - 1785 - 550
1788 - 730, 1789 - 903
 - b. Natchez, Condordia, Ouachita, Opelousas (majority American), Attakapas, Tensas
 - c. Many in North and Western Louisiana "traders, hunters, and vagabonds" . . . They are a hardy people who live on a little maize." - Carondelet to de Lemos, December 18, 1792

D. British

1. Included English, Irish, Scots, Scotch-Irish
2. Probably a majority came via the United States
 - a. Many jumped ship at New Orleans

E. Europeans and Negroes from West Indies

1. Saint Domingue (Donimguois, Dominguens)
 - a. Troubles began in 1789, Spain took part of island in 1793, massacres in French part of island afterwards
2. Martinique and Guadeloupe
3. Cuba - Small stream after 1766
4. French, Free Negroes, Slaves

F. French from France after 1789

1. Number not known - St. Martinville

G. Low Countries - Germans, Hollanders

H. Scandivanians

I. French Canadians after 1763 - North Louisiana - Coureur de bois types

V. French Creolization of these peoples

- A. Refusal of French to conform (like Acadians in Nova Scotia)
- B. Language, customs
- C. Seldom in the history of the world as a nationalistic minority group not in governmental control so completely dominated the language of a province or a region

VI. Louisiana in 1803

A. Louisiana had come of age

1. Over 50,000 people of all nationalities
2. A distinctive culture and language, yet with isolated nationalistic and culture islands dotting the area

B. Agriculturally and commercially mature

C. An area and a people within 9 years of being ready for statehood

D. Spears and Clark, History of the Mississippi Valley,

The Spanish had "failed absolutely to create a colony worth comparison in any respect . . with the Anglo-Saxon communities at the northeast . . In all practical matters, the Louisiana territory was sunk into the rich soil of the valley by its official incubus."

VII. The Spanish Period of Louisiana history, and particularly in relation to immigration and immigration policies, needs a champion.

THE ACADIANS IN LOUISIANA

Harry L. Griffin, Dean Emeritus
College of Liberal Arts
Southwestern Louisiana Institute

Acadian Beginnings

The story of the Acadians, for the most part, covers that period in history that begins with the death of Queen Elizabeth I in England in 1603 and extends for practical purposes until the outbreak of the American Revolution in 1776. During this period there were waged between England and France four major wars: King William's War, 1689-1697; War of the Spanish Succession, 1702-1713; War of the Austrian Succession, 1739-1748; and the Seven Years War, 1756-1763. During these wars, and even between them English and French colonists, espousing the cause of their mother countries, fought each other with all the fury of their principals. In fact it has been said that whenever an Englishman and Frenchman met at any place on the face of the earth they were likely to fly at each others throats, so great was their hatred of each other, engendered by war, religious intolerance, and colonial rivalry. Such was the background against which the Acadians lived, grew, and declined.

The territory and environment of the land that came to be known as Acadia had long been known to Europeans prior to 1604. Between 1498 and 1604 many English, French and Portuguese navigators had skirted its shores in search of a northwest passage to the Indies, or likely places for settlement. During this time Norman, Basque and Breton fishermen had frequented its coasts.

The first use of the term Acadia occurs in a document written in 1603, though it is assumed that the peninsula had been identified by the name Acadia long before, since the Micmac Indians who inhabited it had always designated it by that name. To these Indians the name Cadie, or Kaddy meant region, field, or place of. They used it as a suffix to the names of many things. Thus when added to the word segubuna, meaning ground nuts, one has Segubuna-Kaddy, the place of ground nuts; or when added to soon, the word for cranberries, one has soona-Kaddy, the place of cranberries. One tribe of Indians in Brunswick pronounced the word Quoddy so that it occurs in that form in some of the place names of the province: Passamaquoddy, Noodiquoddy, etc.

It was thus, after a lapse of over a hundred years after the first visits to these coasts, that Pierre du Gast de Monts, a nobleman of Henry Fourth's court, with a commission from his King, set out in 1604 to take possession for France of all lands between the 40th and 46th parallel, to explore them and plant a settlement on

the peninsula then known as la Cadie. He sailed from Havre de Grace on March 7, 1604 accompanied by de Pontgrave, the Baron de Poutrincourt, de Champlain and others. The place chosen for the first settlement was Port Royal, which, with the adjacent territory, de Monts had granted to his friend Putrin court. With de Monts also came clergymen and 150 artisans and laborers. During the following summer a few dwelling houses, a store and a palisade surrounding the whole were erected. Thus was founded Port Royal, in 1604, on the site now occupied by the modern city of Annapolis.

The infant settlement soon encountered many difficulties. During the first winter nearly half the party died of scurvy. In 1607 the monopoly of the fur trade was taken from de Monts on the complaints of his enemies and the settlement abandoned. In 1610, however, another party came from France under the leadership of Poutrincourt, reoccupied Port Royal, and planted settlements at St. Croix and elsewhere. Meantime the English settlement at Jamestown grew strong, and, claiming that Port Royal was on English territory, sent a naval force under Samuel Argale in 1612, which destroyed Port Royal and scattered its inhabitants. The French, however, continued to hold Canada and built forts on the St. John River and at Cape Sable, from which they continued the fur trade and fishing industry.

This English destruction of Port Royal was the beginning of a long and bitter struggle between France and England for possession of the Acadian peninsula, the details of which are too long to be told here. That the Acadians continued to survive and multiply in the midst of this struggle is one of the marvels of history. Five times Port Royal and other Acadian centers were captured by English forces and then returned to France. In these campaigns, Acadians were killed, their houses burned, their cattle and crops carried away, but still they survived and multiplied.

It was after the restoration of Acadia to France in 1632 by the Peace of St. Germain that France inaugurated a serious effort to plant additional settlements in the peninsula. A company, headed by Isaac de Razilly, d'Aulnay and others was formed which brought 300 colonists to Acadia. Between 1639 and 1649 this group brought many others and in 1651 others were brought by Charles Etienne de la Tour. These settlers came principally from the villages of Brittany, Touraine and Poitou. It was from the settlers of this period, 1632-1651, and a scattering of soldiers mustered out of the French armed forces in Acadia, that are descended most of the Acadians we know today.

In 1670 M. de Grandfontaine was sent by France to govern Acadia, after England had returned it by the Treaty of Breda, signed in 1667. His official census takers could find only 400 inhabitants, though there was no doubt a numerous population made up of refugees from the various invasions who had sought safety among the Indians or become coureurs de bois, making their way by fishing and trapping. Under his administration however the population increased more rapidly, reaching 800 by 1686.

Due to overcrowding at Port Royal and the frequent attacks on the fort there the inhabitants began to disperse to other more peace-

ful places in the country. It was a rich inhabitant of Port Royal, Pierre Terriau, who led the first settlers to the basin of Mines. Associated with him were Claude and Antoine Landry and Rene LeBlanc, names celebrated in Acadian history. As new settlers came to this rich section, in order to reclaim the fertile land, they built dikes to keep out the tides, with the result that this section became one of the richest in Acadia. Dotted with modest homes surrounded with orchards, cornfields, and wide green meadows and pastures on which grazed thousands of black cattle, it presented a scene of serene happiness and contentment. It was in the midst of this rural community that grew the Village of Grand Pre, with the Church beloved by the people. Short distances away soon sprang up similar settlements such as Beaubassin, les Mines, Chipody, Cobequet and others.

The Acadians Become English Subjects

This peaceful expansion, however, was not to last long. In 1689 England and France engaged in a war which was to last with little interruption until 1713. In America both sides made use of their Indian allies whose acts of savagery were indescribable. Most of Acadia surrendered to the English and her American Colonials in 1690 and in 1710 a garrison of less than 300 at Port Royal, after a gallant defense of 19 days, surrendered to an English and Colonial force under Nicholson. Acadia thus passed out of the control of France permanently, its citizens became subject of Britain and its name changed to Nova Scotia.

Nicholson's terms of surrender stipulated that the inhabitants of Port Royal and those within three miles might have two years in which to move to French territory, binding themselves to British allegiance for that time, if they remained. The Treaty of Utrecht, signed by England and France in 1713 gave all of Acadia except Louisburg to England. The Acadians were to have the right to leave with their movable effects and the proceeds of the sale of their lands within a year, and to move to any place they desired. Those who wished might remain as subjects of Great Britain and should enjoy the exercise of their religion as far as the laws of the country allowed, provided they took an oath of allegiance to the English King. At the time of this treaty the Acadian population had risen to 2500 souls.

It was the requirement that the Acadians should take an oath of allegiance to the English King which was the cause of their future troubles. At first they decided to leave the country rather than take the hated oath, and began to look for lands elsewhere in French territory. English governors however, fearing to lose such an industrious people to augment French power, delayed giving them permission to leave until the stipulated time had expired. Although every English governor called upon them to take the oath they steadfastly refused, unless there were included in it a clause exempting them from bearing arms against their kinsmen and Indian allies.

Conditions were at this stage in 1729 when General Phillips for the second time became governor of Acadia. On his demand that they take the oath they repeated their previous offers to take it with

restrictions. After some hesitation he accepted their offer and in this form administered it to them. From this date the Acadians were known as "French neutrals," and for almost 20 years they lived in comparative peace, prospered and multiplied.

This period of tranquility lasted until 1754 when the attempts of the French and English to possess North America approached a climax. The English colonies along the Atlantic coast had grown strong and were pushing westward. The French strengthened their claims by building a line of Forts along the St. Lawrence, around the great lakes, and down the valley of the Mississippi to its mouth. Each encouraged its colonists and Indian allies to war against the other. The Acadians, who desired only peace, were caught between these two major antagonists. When on July 3, 1754 George Washington was forced to surrender Fort Necessity to the French, the French and Indian War, which was to decide the fate of the Acadians, had already begun.

In this war the Acadians wanted no part, claiming the status of neutrals and, as a nation, refused to fight on either side. Several things, however, weakened their position in the eyes of the British and the New Englanders. To live under English protection in English owned territory, while at the same time declaring loyalty to the French King, could hardly win approval from the English government. In a few isolated cases hot headed Acadian youths had joined the French and Indian attacks on New England. Another grave charge against them was that on the surrender of Fort Beausejour in June, 1755, the English caught 200 able bodied Acadians fully armed, though there was positive evidence that they had been forced into French service against their will by threats of death and destruction of property. On the other hand there is ample evidence that the Acadians observed faithfully the oath administered by Governor Phillips. They furnished the English garrisons with supplies. On more than one occasion they notified the English of hostile French movements, and refused supplies to the French. On the outbreak of war in 1754 most of them threw away their weapons and ammunition, declaring they did not wish to hang. Their main desire was to remain on their farms and engage in their peaceful pursuits of tilling their fields and rearing their families.

Governor Lawrence Plans Their Expulsion

In 1755 it was the misfortune of the Acadians to have as their governor, Charles Lawrence. Unlike his predecessors he was as suspicious as he was treacherous and ambitious. There were indications that he coveted the wealth of the Acadians for himself and his supporters. He was willing to hold against them every imaginable charge - the unauthorized taking of new lands, obduracy, instigation of the Indians and others. In these charges he was supported by Governor Shirley and other New England governors who professed fear of the Acadians and wished to see them expelled. Having been furnished with such evidence Lawrence concluded that all Acadians were rebellious, untrustworthy and in league with the French and Indians. His fears were further increased by rumors of a French naval attack and the news of Braddock's defeat and loss of Fort Duquesne. He thereupon,

on June 4, 1755, issued two drastic orders: first that all Acadians must surrender whatever weapons they might possess, including their canoes; and secondly, all must take the oath of allegiance without reservation. This new oath contained a clause that demanded the bearing of arms.

On July 3, 1755 Lawrence held a meeting of his council in his house at Halifax, before which delegates from the Acadian settlements were summoned to appear. Upon their refusal to take the unrestricted oath he threw them in prison, and laid careful plans to prevent their escape. On July 18 he wrote the British Board of Trade: "I have ordered my deputies to be elected and sent here immediately, and am determined to bring the inhabitants to a compliance, or rid the province of such perfidious subjects." The Board of Trade answered: "You are not to attempt their removal without His Majesty's positive order."

Disregarding the order from the Board of Trade Lawrence went ahead with his plans. He sent his aids Monckton, Winslow, Murray and Handfield to Grand Pre and other centers to assemble in the churches on a given date all males from ten years up. At the same time he sent squads of soldiers to the chief centers to corral the citizens and block all avenues of escape. Meantime he had ordered ships from Boston and other seaboard ports to assemble in nearby harbors to carry the victims to selected destinations. His final act was to furnish each of his aids with a copy of his decree of expulsion, which was to be read to the assembled Acadians. During this time the Acadians were kept in complete ignorance of the fate that awaited them, though there was great apprehension among them, as they saw these mysterious preparations going on.

The blow first fell on the inhabitants of Grand Pre, Whose men had been ordered to assemble in the Village Church on September 5, 1755. There, surrounded by his aids, many of them from New England, Winslow read to them their fate in these words: "That your Lands Tenements, cattle of all Kinds and Live Stock of all Sorts are Forfeited to the Crown with all other your Effects, Saving your money and Household Goods; and yourselves to be removed from this Province." Four hundred and eighteen men of Grand Pre and vicinity were assembled in this little church to hear this decree. Winslow then declared them prisoners of the King and commanded them not to depart as he had soldiers there to enforce his order.

By the seventh of September there were five transports in the basin that served Grand Pre. On September tenth Winslow noticed that the young men among the prisoners were getting restless and ordered that fifty of them be placed immediately on board of each of the five transports. Here one gets a good idea of the heartbreaking scenes that were repeated all over Acadia, as the victims were torn from their homes and families to be transported to strange lands among alien peoples. As the two hundred fifty young men were lined up between files of soldiers with fixed bayonets, the scene that followed was almost indescribable. Every evidence of grief and excitement became manifest - cries of anger, tears and pleading for mercy, stubborn refusal to march, calling of father to son and son to father, and of brother to brother. Words are inadequate to describe such a scene. Many people from the villages lined the road to the landing place, a distance of a mile and a half away; and as the young men moved down

the road between files of soldiers, singing, praying, and weeping, many of the assembled people fell on their knees and prayed, or followed with wailing and lamentation.

The scene which I have just described was repeated many times in 1755 and for several years afterward. The population of the peninsula of Acadia in 1755 was well over 10,000. Of these about 6,000 were deported in that year. Some 3,000 had made their way into the north country, and many others escaped to the forests. Because good land in Acadia had become scarce, family estates had been subdivided among older sons until the farms had become smaller and smaller. As a consequence many younger sons of Acadian families had left their homelands and settled in Prince Edward Island and along the shores of the Bay of Fundy. As a result of this migration there were in 1755 probably another 10,000 living in neighboring provinces. After this first deportation it became the policy of subsequent governors to deport these helpless people until it is estimated that, by 1763, as many as 18,000 had been uprooted from their homes.

In order to destroy all hopes of their ever reclaiming their homes Winslow ordered the building to be burned, often in the presence of their owners. Winslow's own journal records the burning in one section of 255 houses, 276 barns, 155 outhouses, 11 mills and one church. Many others were burned later so that the countryside presented a scene of utter destruction and desolation.

Having been snatched from their homes, the Acadians were crowded on ships in such fashion that they had to leave behind much of the household goods they had been told to bring with them. As we know many families were separated. One outstanding case of family separation was that of the venerable notary Rene LeBlanc of Grand Pre. LeBlanc, his wife and two youngest children were put on one transport and landed in New York, but their eighteen other children and 150 grandchildren were embarked on different transports and dispersed among different colonies. Nor were the Acadians informed as to their final destination. Though Lawrence intended to scatter them among the English colonies along the Atlantic seaboard, only one of the Colonial governors had any notice of their coming. Thus were they dumped among populations whose fear and hatred of everything French had been inflamed by the savagery that had accompanied the French and Indian Wars.

A few examples will give us a good idea of the tribulations and suffering that lay in store for these victims of hate, fear, and intolerance. On November 19, 1755, three ships arrived in Philadelphia with 300 "French Neutrals," all that survived of the 450 on board at the time of departure. Governor Morris, in great alarm, at first refused permission to disembark them. After many interviews, protests and delays their landing was finally authorized. This group, claiming to be prisoners of war, was never able to make satisfactory arrangements for a settlement whereby the families might remain together; so they continued there a neglected people dependent on public support until claimed by death.

As soon as the group assigned to Georgia arrived, Governor Reynolds decreed their banishment. With his authorization they

constructed roughly made boats, hoping therein to return to their native land. With incredible courage and perseverance some reached New York and Massachusetts, only to be stopped by an order of the pitiless Lawrence, their boats confiscated and they themselves again thrown into captivity. In 1756 a group of 76 in South Carolina made a similar attempt but met with the same fate. Virginia positively refused to permit the landing of 1500 Acadians whom Lawrence had sent to the shores of that province; and the ship captains were ordered to take them to England where they remained as neglected prisoners until rescued by France after the Peace of 1763

Of the twenty off ships consigned to New England ports four never reached their destination. Of those destined for Philadelphia, one perished at sea with its human cargo, and two others were driven by winds to San Domingo where the prisoners were left. Another ship carrying 226 Acadians from Port Royal, among whom were found persons with the names of Boudreau, Dugas, Richard, Doucet and Landry, was forcefully taken over by the exiles whom it bore and sailed back to the River St. John on the shores of which they found refuge with a band of fugitives who had escaped deportation.

Having sensed the vigorous opposition of the American colonies to their reception, Lawrence tried to dump one group of 2,000 Acadians in the seaports of France. After France refused to receive them, and after some 1300 had perished by disease and shipwreck, the survivors were landed at Southampton and other English ports. Thus began an exile which was to end only in death for many.

Renaissance in Louisiana

Just when the first Acadians reached Louisiana cannot be definitely stated. There is a tradition in the Mouton family that ancestor Salvador Mouton settled in S. James Parish in 1756, one year after the deportation began. Gayarre, the Louisiana historian, wrote that Acadians from the American colonies settled on the left bank of the Mississippi River as early as 1758. It is entirely possible that a few hardy refugees did escape from the colonies and follow traders and trappers to Louisiana. It is quite probable that some groups from the colonies came to Louisiana as did that one from Maryland, as recounted by Judge Felix Voorhies in his *Acadian Reminiscences*, by crossing the mountains and floating down the Cumberland and Mississippi Rivers. There was, however, no heavy influx of Acadian exiles until after the close of the French and Indian War in 1763. Soon after that they came in a steady stream, from the colonies, Canada, San Domingo and the tropical islands, which reached its crest in 1785.

It was not until April 4, 1764 that we find any official announcement of the coming of Acadians to Louisiana. On that date D'Abadie, Commissionaire Ordinnateur in New Orleans, announced the arrival, on a ship from New York, of several Acadian families numbering about fifty persons. He described them as pitiful and poor. He said he looked after their needs until he could send them to the Attakapas and Opelousas Districts. In the same month 190 arrived from San Domingo; and one finds others arriving with increasing frequency.

On April 24, 1765 the military commander at New Orleans reported the arrival of several Acadian families and that more are expected every day. He had planned to settle them along the Mississippi River, but because the land there overflowed, he decided to send them to the Opelousas and Attakapas Districts where cattle raising promised to be profitable.

Aubry, acting governor of Louisiana between the French and Spanish regimes, stated that the Attakapas District was sixty or eighty leagues from New Orleans, by way of the Mississippi River and Bayou Plaquemine; and the trip required six days.

On April 20 another group of Acadians arrived and after supplying their needs in the amount of 15,500 pounds, Aubry sent them to the Attakapas District. With this last group he sent an engineer to assign to the newcomers appropriate lands along navigable streams in such a way that they could be of help to each other in the clearing of land, building of homes, and the opening of roads. Some of these Acadians brought with them card money, issued to them by such governors of Canada as Bigot, Vergor and Niverville, and bearing dates from 1752 to 1760. While no one would accept this money it is of interest to know that it bore as payees such names as Broussard, Trahan, Braud, Bernard, Boudrot, Poirier, Bourgeois, Roy, LeBlanc, Thiboudau, Arceneau, Guilbeau, Cormier, and Doucet.

In his correspondence of 1765 Aubry, having received sixty Acadian families from San Domingo, and having heard that three hundred Acadian men, women and Children were on their way up the Mississippi River to New Orleans, and that four thousand others might be expected in the future, said it appeared that Louisiana was about to become a new Acadia. The prospect of so many at that time worried him and Foucault, because they were not prepared to take care of so many, and it had been reported that some of them had smallpox. However, Aubry described them as brave, hard-working, faithful to their country and religion. He expressed the idea also that they will accomplish marvels if given assistance.

On November 18th, 1766 Foucault wrote that a month previously two hundred surviving Acadians had arrived in New Orleans from Halifax on an English boat which they had chartered at their own expense. These were sent to Cabahanoce, the present parish of St. James. They were established on both banks of the Mississippi River and given agricultural implements, and, for the first year, the same rations that were issued to the Spanish Colonial troops. This was the beginning of the settlements that came to be known as the Acadian Coast. In July and August other Acadians arrived and wished to join their friends there but Governor Ulloa sent them instead to St. Gabriel near Manchac. There they later deposited in the St. Gabriel Church the parish registers which they had rescued from their beloved Church of St. Charles des Mines. These records covered the period from 1688 to 1755. Unfortunately the flood of 1898 destroyed all the volumes except those dated from 1707 to 1748. These are still preserved in the files of the Arch Diocese of New Orleans.

In a short time all the lands along the Mississippi in the vicinity of Cabahanoce had been taken up. Beginning about 1768, there-

fore many of the newly arrived Acadians were located on lands further up the river around the confluence of the Mississippi and Bayou Lafourche. This section was known as Lafourche des Chetimaches and later became Ascension Parish with the seat of government at Donaldsonville.

In 1785, with encouragement from the King of Spain, Henry III of France agreed to permit the 4,000 Acadian refugees, who had found a haven there and were being miserably supported by public charity, to seek homes elsewhere. The Spanish King, desiring to build up the population of Louisiana agreed to transport a certain number to Louisiana and establish them on free lands at his expense. The result was that during 1785 over 1200 Acadians, in seven shiploads, took advantage of the Spanish King's offer and found new homes in Louisiana. Lists of these Acadians are given in the Acadian Odyssey by Oscar W. Winzerling. In the same year 1600 Acadians left Brittany, sailing from Lorient on May 15; and on July 2nd several sailed from St. Malo, all headed for Louisiana. About the same time others, with the same destination in mind, left the Antilles and British colonies. At the end of this migration not over 800 of the Acadian refugees remained in France, where all but those at Belle-Isle-en-Mer were finally absorbed in the French population. These Acadians settled with others in the districts of Opelousas, Attakapas, St. James and Ascension; except that some of them were sent to the districts of Avoyelles and Natchitoches. In most instances the Spanish authorities granted to each head of a family land fronting six arpents on a stream, with a depth of forty arpents. Families were furnished with farm implements and given assistance in building a house. In this manner did the homeless Acadians finally reach the end of their aimless wanderings and find a permanent refuge in the warm clime of Louisiana.

Acadian Expansion in Louisiana

After the Acadians were well settled in the districts named above, their numbers and land holdings multiplied rapidly, due to the custom of large families among them. From St. James and Lafourche they spread up and down the Mississippi from the German Coast to Baton Rouge. Thereafter they acquired lands along the Bayous Lafourche, Plaquemine and the New and Amite Rivers. Names typical of those who settled this vast region are LeBlanc, Landry, Babin, Blanchard, Torrio, Hymel, Roman, Aucoin, Gautrot, Chauvin, Robichaux, Bourg, Verret and Gaudet.

In the Attakapas District, which embraced the present parishes of St. Martin, St. Mary, Iberia, Lafayette and Vermilion they established homes along the entire length of Bayous Teche, Vermilion and Carenco. The earliest settlers in this district bore such names as Arceneaux, Bernard, Prejean, Melancon, Landry, Richard, Broussard, Martin, Mouton, Dugas, Hebert, Trahan, Thibodaux, Sonnier, Pellerin, Judice and Breaux. Not many of the early Acadian arrivals settled in the Avoyelles and Rapides Districts but drifted in at a later date. Yet prior to 1803 one finds among the landowners there such names as Lemoine, Roger, Perret, DeCuir, Magnon, Gauthier, Bernard, Laborde,

Lacroix, Gaspard, Couvillion, Roy and Saucier.

In the Opelousas district which embraced the present parishes of St. Landry, Evangeline, Acadia, Jefferson Davis, Calcasieu and Cameron the Acadians established their homes along the Bayous Cortabateau, Que Tortue, the River Hermentau and spread out into the broad prairies to the south and west. Among the early settlers one finds such names as Sonnier, Villier, Andrus, Bourque, Arseneau, Richard, Stelly, Mayeux, Dupre, Andrepont, Doucet and Martin.

The task of estimating the pure Acadian population of Louisiana becomes very difficult when one comes face to face with the amazing capacity of the Acadians to absorb into their culture the different races that have settled among them. Recent studies indicate that many Germans and other races, through intermarriage with Acadians, now consider themselves Acadians and some have changed their names accordingly. It was found that the name Rome was originally German Rommel, Touns was German Dubs, and Haydel was German Heidel. This transition from the anglo-saxon and other cultures to that of the Acadian has resulted from a number of causes, the chief elements of which are: the French language, the Catholic religion and food habits.

In the districts to which they were assigned, the Acadians, by the census of Governor Galvez in 1785, numbered only about five thousand. An estimate, prepared in 1803 after the American occupation, placed the Acadian population at ten thousand. By the census of 1810 their number had doubled. Due to the presence of large families among them their numbers have increased very rapidly, so that today it is estimated that in all of Louisiana and East Texas they number between four and five hundred thousand. If those that have been drawn into their cultural orbit were included the number would probably reach six hundred thousand. As an example of the rapid growth of families from a few forebears, Emile Louviere in his *Histoire de la Louisiana Francaise*, stated that this population in 1940 included 3800 Broussards and 4200 Moutons.

Educational Progress

When the Acadians reached Louisiana very few except their leaders could boast of any educational advantages. In the Louisiana of that day they found no public school system, nor were there any private schools to which they could send their children. In time a number of families would pool their resources to employ a kind of community teacher. Frequently a teacher would come into a community and organize a class and charge a small tuition. Many of these early teachers were French and conducted their classes in that language, using French readers and textbooks. Some of the names of these early teachers have come down to us such as Madame de St. Laurent in St. Martinville and Alexandre Bard in Lafayette Parish.

Education among them got its first real start with the founding of Academies. One of the first of these to serve the Acadian population was the Academy of the Sacred Heart, founded at Grand Coteau in 1821. Others of these academies were: Jefferson College at Convent, founded by Governor Roman in 1831; St. Charles College at Grand Coteau in 1838; and St. Vincent's Institute at Donaldsonville in 1843. These academies were popular among the Acadians, especially

the well-to-do ones, and many of their leaders were educated there.

Education among the Acadians received another substantial impetus with the founding of Southwestern Louisiana Institute which opened its doors in 1901. This institution, in the heart of Acadian Southwest Louisiana, was sponsored by Senator Robert Martin, himself an Acadian, with the distinct purpose of raising the educational level of the children of his fellow Acadians. Since its opening in 1901 illiteracy in the districts served by it has shown a steady decline. By the census of 1910, 22.2 per cent of the native whites over ten years of age were illiterate; in 1930 the per cent had fallen to 16.0 and in 1950 by the same standards it was much lower.

The idea that the Acadians have remained a race of simple peasant farmers, fishermen and trappers is entirely erroneous. It is true that many of them still live on their small farms and that some in the "Deep Bayou Country" still lead simple lives as fishermen, trappers and charcoal burners; but they are no more representative of the race than the characters in "Tobacco Road" are representative of the citizenship of Kentucky, Tennessee, and the Carolinas. Today the sons and daughters of the Acadians, on the farms as well as in the towns, attend either the public or the parochial high school. They belong to the local chapters of Future Farmers, Four H Clubs and future homemakers, and take an active part in their programs.

Many children of Acadians attend the colleges and professional schools, and their records there show that they can hold their own with their classmates. A few examples taken from the records of Southwestern Louisiana Institute demonstrate this fact. Of eighteen in the first graduating class in 1903, five had Acadian names; six years later thirty-six in a class of fifty-four had Acadian names. When the first degrees were granted in 1921, one of a class of three was an Acadian; in 1929 there were twenty-nine Acadians in a class of one hundred three; in 1939 the number was forty-one out of one hundred sixteen. In the class of 1955, there were one hundred forty-five out of a class of five hundred two. In this graduating class, of the forty-eight graduated with distinction, twenty-six had Acadian names; and of the thirty-one who received awards for scholarship, leadership and high character fifteen were Acadians.

As further evidence of Acadian interest in education it can be pointed out that for years James Broussard, an Acadian, headed the Department of Romance Languages at Louisiana State University; and that two of the college deans at Southwestern Louisiana Institute are named Doucet and Arceneaux. The report of the State Department of Education for 1955 showed that among the sixty-four parish superintendents in Louisiana seventeen were Acadians; and another seventeen were either assistant superintendents or classroom supervisors. In these same parishes sixty serve as principals of high schools. Practically all of these positions require the masters degree as a minimum qualification. Hundreds of other Acadians are teaching various subjects in the public and parochial schools.

Acadians of Distinction

Even in Acadia, because of their intelligence, energy and integrity, certain Acadians came to be recognized as leaders among the inhabitants, as was the case of the venerable notary, Rene LeBlanc. In Louisiana there have risen from their ranks many Acadians to occupy positions of leadership and distinction, not only among their people but in the state and nation. Thus Joseph LeBlanc served as Commandant of the post at Donaldsonville under the Spanish regime, and was the first Commandant there appointed by Governor Claiborne. He later served in the state senate. Gourhept Broussard, known as "Beausoliel" because of his smiling countenance, was commissioned captain of militia for the Attakapas District in 1765.

Several Acadians have served as governor of the State of Louisiana. The first of these was Henry Schuyler Thibedaux who founded the town of Thibedaux in 1822. He was born of Acadian parentage in New York state and came to Louisiana in 1796. He served as justice of the peace, captain of the territorial militia, a member of the territorial legislature; and, as a delegate to the Convention of 1812, helped frame the first Louisiana Constitution. As president of the senate in 1824 he became governor on the resignation of Governor Thomas Bolling Robertson, who was appointed to the United States Senate. Between 1828 and 1835 four of Acadian descent served as governors; Pierre Derbigny, A. Beauvais, Jaques Dupre and Bienvenue Roman. Alexandre Mouton, grandson of Acadian exile Salvador Mouton, was elected governor in 1843, after having resigned his seat in the United States Senate. Born on Bayou Carenbro he studied law under the tutelage of Judge Edward Simon in St. Martinville, but became sugar planter instead of lawyer. He was the first Democratic governor of Louisiana after the party of Jefferson adopted the name Democratic instead of Republican. As governor he cleared up the disordered finances of the state, and, by calling the Convention of 1845, gave Louisiana its first democratic constitution. Having served his term of governor he retired to his plantation at Vermilionville in Lafayette Parish. He subsequently served twice as delegate to National Democratic Conventions, and in 1861 presided over the Louisiana Secession Convention.

The last of the Acadian governors was Paul Octave Hebert, who in 1853 took the oath of office on his sick bed at his Acadia Plantation on the Mississippi River. As a graduate of West Point he led the Class of 1840. While serving as a lieutenant of engineers in the army he built Fort Livingston on Grand Terre at Barataria Pass, and was a lieutenant-colonel in the Mexican War. During the Civil War he attained the rank of brigadier-general in the Confederate Army.

Besides governors there have sprung from the ranks of the Acadians a host of other able leaders. In addition to the early chiefs the Broussard family has produced two distinguished United States senators and numerous lawyers, bankers and civil officials. The Mouton family, in addition to the governor, has given us two lieutenant governors, two congressmen, a famous Confederate general who gave his life for the cause; and a long line of distinguished

judges and lawyers. A LeBlanc has recently retired as associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court and another Acadian elected to take his place.

Even some Acadian women, who traditionally are expected to confine their activities to the home, have become widely recognized for their contributions to various causes. Miss Edith Garland Dupre, as head of the English Department at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, has gained wide recognition not only as an educator but as an inspirer of youth and a promoter of significant civic projects. Mrs. Guzan Blanchard Elder, writing under the nom-de-plume of Hermine, produced many war songs and poems. Mrs. Sidonie de La Houssaye, founded a famous school for the children of rich planters in Franklin, wrote short stories and was associated with George W. Cable during his authorship of various books on life in Louisiana. Miss Irene Whitfield, whose mother was an Acadian, attracted wide attention a few years ago on the publication of her collection of Acadian folk songs. Mrs. C. E. Hamilton, daughter of the late distinguished lawyer and judge, Orther C. Mouton, as an officer of France Amerique de la Louisiane Acadienne, has accomplished much toward the preservation of the French language and culture in Louisiana, and was instrumental in establishing on the Southwestern campus the Maison Francaise Acadienne.

Their Distinctive Culture

To appreciate the culture which the Acadians brought with them to Louisiana one must turn to what contemporary travellers and writers had to say about them. They were not a learned people because comparatively few could read and write. Simple, industrious, and kind-hearted, they lived to themselves but with an open heart of justice and charity to everyone. They were a gentle race. If a widow were found helpless through old age or infirmity, her neighbors would volunteer to cultivate her gardens and fields, cut firewood for her, and gather her harvest. An orphan was welcomed in any home and treated as a natural child, while the poor and the aged were given special care by the community. If any one lost a sheep, a hog, or suffered damage to his crop through vandalism or theft by the Indians or French, he would work all the harder to recoup his loss rather than seek remuneration in the courts of the elders. They made their own shoes, clothes, tools and cooking utensils. During the good seasons of the year they cultivated their fields, trapped and fished as a group. During the bitter cold winter months groups of families would gather around the hearth drink hard cider or maple syrup, tell stories, sing their old folk songs, dance, and relate their ancient history. Socially they clung tenaciously to the simple manners, customs and old French tongue of their forefathers. It is not true that in Acadia they spoke a "patois Acadien," though in time their language was modified by isolation from France and by English environment. As an Acadian seldom married outside his home town it followed that everyone in that town was in some degree related to everyone else. They lived like ancient patriarchs in a state of innocence and equality.

comparable to that of the first centuries.

One of the outstanding traits of the Acadians was their deep religious character. An English traveller wrote that in his dealing with them he rarely met with malice or vengeance and that he did not know of drunkenness and swearing among them. Another wrote that crime, theft, debauchery and illegitimacy were unknown in their communities for long periods of time. To them their church was the very center of their lives; in it they were baptized, married, and buried; and in it they found most that was of interest and joy to them. With childlike delight they would anticipate and prepare for some feast day such as that of St. Ann or the Virgin Mary. These were occasions that called not only for personal piety and devotion, but also for the gayest of national costumes, and communal generosity in their observance. In the local priest they had absolute confidence, and, not only in spiritual and moral matters, but often in matters of property and politics, sought his advice and judgment. Even in their hour of bitterest suffering and trial they did not envy the wealth, power, or happiness of other peoples. Whether their lot in life were good or bad they accepted it as the will of God.

From the foregoing description one concludes that the basic elements in the culture of the Acadians lay in their gentle, courteous, friendly demeanor, their respect for authority, and their zest for the joy of living. These qualities have made for them many friends, and have been very influential in drawing into their cultural orbit the many different races that have settled among them here in Louisiana.

With them they brought to Louisiana the language, which their ancestors carried to Acadia from the France of the "Ancien regime." It is not the language of modern France and here in Louisiana it has been modified by an admixture of English, German and other languages brought among them by different nationalities. Embedded in this language still are many of the songs, proverbs, idioms and much folklore of old France and long outgrown in that country. Yet they have held on to this language, taught it to their children and even to their slaves and later their servants. It is a picturesque language, and its various expressions are a continuing source of wonder and humor. Yet, in many sections, such as St. Martinville, and among older Acadian families, the classical French, brought over by members of noble families who fled the French Revolution, is still preserved. These emigres also revived among the Acadians the noble French style of living, brought opera to St. Martinville and in other ways made that city a center of a revived French culture. The result was that St. Martinville came to be known throughout Southwest Louisiana as "Petite Paris." This classical French has been preserved in many of the old Acadian families and is spoken by them today. In the libraries of these families may still be found many volumes of French histories, biographies, plays and fiction.

As indicated above a very important element of Acadian culture in the Catholic religion. To this religion the Acadians have ever remained faithful; perhaps even more so than their kinsmen in France, since they have never been disturbed by the varied philosophies that

accompanied the French Revolution. Its influence on their social activities have already been discussed above. To a large extent it has set the pattern of their lives, and formulated their moral principles. Its sacraments, its feast days, and fast days, its schools, and auxiliary activities occupy an extensive area in Acadian culture. Since many of its priests have been of French origin and its schools have taught French, the church has also been a powerful agency in perpetuating the French language and culture among them.

Like all Frenchmen the Acadians have a great admiration for things that are beautiful. Their art, however, for the most part took the form of handicrafts. From Acadia the women brought the art of spinning yarn, weaving it into cloth and from it fashioning clothes for the family, blankets for the beds, rugs for the floors and curtains for the windows. These the good wife dyed into pleasing colors with peach tree leaves and indigo. Nearly every family that could afford it possessed a spinning wheel and hand loom; and the whir of the wheel and the clank of the loom were familiar sounds in many an early Acadian home. They also learned to fashion baskets from the willow and braid broad brimmed hats from the leaves of the palmetto. Hand woven cotton blankets formed part of the hope chest of many Acadian girls. A few Acadian women have kept up this form of art and it is still possible to find in a few places such articles as hand woven, fringed bed spreads, rugs, towels, hats, and a few other articles. While they have produced no great literature they have made a distinct contribution to the art of conversation and story telling. They never lack something to talk about, especially among themselves, and their comments on persons and events are most illuminating. They have a keen sense of humor and appreciate a good story, which they can also tell with remarkable finesse. With all the details and adornments their stories become real works of art.

Food habits form an important element in the culture of any people. This is definitely true of the Acadians. They have developed a distinctive style of cooking which has made the Acadian centers of Louisiana famous for its characteristic dishes. Their cooking is the combination of the French love for delicacies, the Spanish taste for pungent seasoning, the culinary skill of the Negro, and the Indian use of herbs and roots. Some of the dishes which have gained wide recognition are mirliton (vegetable pear), bouillabasse (fish chowder), courtbouillon, crayfish bisque, crayfish etouffer, gumbo, daube glace, jambalaya, coush-coush and cafe brulot. Visitors who eat these dishes for the first time go away with the feeling they have partaken of a meal that is not only exotic but most pleasing to the taste and satisfying to the appetite.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH PANEL DISCUSSION

Discussion of the subject by Panel consisting of:

Mrs. Elinor Fletcher, Chairman

Miss Florence LeC. Eisele

Mrs. James K. Polk, Jr.

Miss Katherine Colbert

INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Mrs. Elinor Fletcher
New Orleans, Louisiana

This will not be a panel discussion, but rather a meeting of minds, as we who are on this panel, have found that we agree on the attitude and methods of beginning to work in genealogy. We have various experience in doing this work and agree that genealogy is a science, and the methods used should be as scientifically sound as those of genetics or historical research. We should line up the correct procedure to find the truth. We should assemble our facts; document them; transcribe them accurately. We should use as our goal the primary source, which will be later discussed by Mrs. Polk. We should make our charts, but we should clothe them with flesh and blood. These persons for whom we search were living, breathing people. We are writing history - history of the little people. They wove the fabric of our lives as well as those whose names are renowned. Tact is necessary in obtaining information. Some of the lines we may find have been wispy little bits of string left to dangle; the other members of the family hoping that no one would ever find them to tie them to the line again.

Both Miss Eisele and I have words to say about that ubiquitous "horse-thief". I shall say mine now. Never speak to me of horse-thief. When, I was in public library work, patrons were always sidling up to me and saying, "I'd like to trace my family, but I am afraid I'll find a horse-thief." Well, that is like waving a red flag in front of a bull, to me. Who are we, sitting here comfortably clothed, presumably having bathed in hot and cold running water, having lunched in style on well-refrigerated food, freed by modern science from the scourges of so many of the terrible diseases, and having made the trip here comfortably behind a high-powered motor, who are we, to

judge those people of that distant day? What can we know of the pressures borne upon them? If your progenitor was a pirate, perhaps that is why your family had the spirit of derring-do which brought them over the seas. If he or she was one of the miserable failures in life, driven like cattle from the pen at Newgate to the hold of a verminous filthy ship, I say thank heaven, he or she had the strength of character and courage of mind and heart to start anew here and give you the privilege you have today. We deal with times of heart-break and hope, and I say in all sincerity, search for your ancestors with love and humility.

BEGINNING A FAMILY HISTORY

Florence LeC. Eisele
Natchez, Mississippi

It gave me great pleasure to be presnet last September at the Monroe meeting of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society. I met the members then present, and noted the efficiency and enthusiasm with which the business of the Society was carried out. You can imagine then, that I come before the same group this morning to talk about "Beginning a family history" with a sense of humility that would satisfy even Arthur Godfrey!

There is nothing new I can bring you all on the subject, I feel sure, but I appreciate very much the honor of summarizing for you some of the reasons why a family-historian "gets that way." Other members of the panel will give the family-historians more practical help in tracing the growth of a family-tree.

A short while ago I read advice which a great European sports-coach gave to those who would excel in any athletic event. It seemed good advice even for those of us who engage only in the sport of hunting ancestors. The coasch said: "There must be a strong belief that what you do is WORTHWHILE, and that it improves your mind, your character and your entire personality. You should have FIRST AN IDEA, and then the goal or aim which you intend to reach in the working-out of that IDEA. THE ATHLETE WITH THE GREATEST MOTIVATION AND THE GREATER INTELLIGENCE IS THE ONE WHO WINS."

We who practice, even as amateurs, the science of genealogy, must have the idea, the wish, to record the history of our families. It is the sum total of all our simple, private family-chronicles that makes up the history of our nation, and that definitely makes the work we do very much worthwhile.

This idea, this motive, this stimulus - whatever you choose to call it - may spring from a variety of causes. Gilbert Doane, in that well-known book, Searching for Your Ancestors, says that the thing which started him off on his ancestor-hunt was a chance remark by one of his college classmates. I should like very much to know what that remark was, wouldn't you? The motive for some searchers may be the desire to qualify for membership in some patriotic society. With others, it may be to satisfy a curiosity concerning what country some ancestor came from, or to ferret out the derivation of some unusual surname. Albert Wiggam, an author who wrote several books popularizing the study of ancestry, once said that an accurate, detailed family-history should share the post of honor on the parlor table with the huge family Bible, for the reason that the Bible only set forth general principles of good against evil, while your family history would give

you all the vices and virtues of those from whom you actually inherited your traits, so that from it you might learn which vices to avoid and which virtues to cultivate. But in practically all cases of true addiction to the practice of genealogy, it is the detective-element - that overwhelming craving to see if you have made the right deductions from the clues at hand - that keeps one going on and on to completion of the task.

I remembered that old cliché about the one picture being worth more than thousands of words, so I hope you will forgive me for illustrating what I have to say about my own idea, motive, or stimulus, by actually showing the documents. Just once, I was allowed to see an old 1808 sampler in the possession of an elderly second-cousin. There were names and the date worked on it, but no place-names, of course, but it had belonged to my mother's paternal line. From her maternal lines, my mother had inherited an 1817 family Bible, with a 1776 marriage and several births entered therein, but again with no place-names recorded. Yet these two documents were the fuel to which the spark was applied when my mother handed me a brief clipping of a convention in New Orleans in 1922, and said that the name of one of the delegates was the only instance she'd ever seen of her maiden surname borne by anyone other than her immediate family. The curiosity aroused in me to give the disembodied name on the sampler and Bible a "local habitation" was so strong that it led me to the pleasure of assisting, as best I could, a distant kinsman who possessed both the motivation to begin and the intelligence to succeed in compiling this volume. In it hundreds of families, all unknown to my mother, yet all descendants of her own Immigrant-Ancestor, are carefully listed, together with many ancestors of that Immigrant-Ancestor back in England. So much for the idea, the motive, the stimulus which starts us on our search - a search so frustrating one minute, so rewarding the next, I warn you.

We still have the second hurdle set by our sports-instructor to surmount - that "greater intelligence" he mentioned. At your Monroe meeting, your Mrs. Neff kindly gave me a copy of excerpts from an article in the DAR magazine, by the genealogist, Ruth Smith Williams. In it occurred the arresting sentence: "GENEALOGY IS NO HOBBY FOR AN IGNORAMUS." The very nature of our search for previous generations presupposes an elementary knowledge, at least, of the history of our own country, and, ultimately, of the history of the country from which our ancestor came. We may have forgotten all our school history courses, and we may never have had any grounding in law or theology. But it will not be long before we find ourselves rereading our histories with eager interest, and picking up bits of legal wisdom and religious customs. We gain a wider knowledge, too, of human nature - not only from the romance and pathos we find in the records on our early ancestors, but also in the quirks we encounter in courthouse clerks and librarians with whom we have to keep on good terms!

The use of our intelligence in beginning our family history soon leads one to the realization that one's work will fall into three general classifications. Later speakers are to treat of them in detail, so I shall merely mention them now:

First, there will be the use of "primary sources." The sampler here, and the Bible records, are examples of such sources, along with your interviews with relatives or other oral facts.

The second type concerns itself with the use of printed genealogical or historical data, such as this volume in which the old sampler and Bible names have finally been put into print, in their proper relationship to the families which made them.

Yet facts gathered from these two sources will overwhelm you, like the unhappy Sorcerer's Apprentice in the story, if you lack the power to control them by the proper organization of your data as you collect it. There is absolutely no telling when a name or date, seemingly useless to you today, may fit tomorrow into the same jigsaw puzzle which someone, half-way round the world perhaps, is trying to work out on your same ancestor!

One last word of advice - if anyone tries to discourage you by warning that your work may just result in finding the proverbial horse-thief hanging from the family-tree, just quote them from this poem, by Virginia Scott Miner, in the Saturday Evening Post for November 17, 1941:

"It's nice to come from gentle folk who wouldn't stoop to drawl,
 Who never took a lusty poke at anyone at all,
 Who never raised a raucous shout at any country inn
 Or calmed an ugly fellow lout with a belaying pin,
 Who never shot a revenuer hunting for the still,
 Who never rustled cattle, who're pleased with uncle's will
 Who lived their lives out as they ought with no uncouth dis-
 tractions,
 And shunned like leprosy the thought of taking legal actions.
 It's nice to come from gentle folk who've never known disgrace-
 But oh, though Scandal is no joke, IT'S EASIER TO TRACE! "

THE USE OF PRIMARY SOURCES

Mrs. James K. Polk, Jr.
Inverness, Mississippi

Mrs. Saunders has asked that I discuss "Primary Sources" on this panel. It is very fitting that this Institute should be sponsored by the History Department of Louisiana State University, as it is a conceded fact that history, biography, migrations and genealogy are each dependent upon the other. Source material is the base from which they all work. For several years before I attended the Institute in Washington, I spent most Saturday afternoons with my good friend, May Wilson McBee, of Greenwood, Mississippi, the compiler of two very fine books on Source Material - "Anson County North Carolina, Abstracts of Early Records", and "The Natchez Court Records". She never accepted anything until the primary source was found. Thus being grounded, I too have the same opinion.

Primary Source sounds almost insignificant. But that is far from the truth. It is the basis of all accepted genealogical research.

Within the last three decades, the demand for proven data and dates has grown stronger and more exacting, in compiling family histories. No longer can we depend upon family tradition, what Grandmother or Aunt Elizabeth tells us (too often even a generation is left out). This can only serve as a clue to work from, as we have to have written documentary evidence. The primary sources are Bible records, often lost or put in the attic by the young who inherit them, because the backs are off and they are ugly old books - tomb stones inscriptions, now disappearing because of ice storms and grass fires that crack and crumble the stone or marble, - wills, estate papers, orphans' court records, succession papers in Louisiana, and Supreme Court Records. Here in Mississippi we have a very fine book, compiled by Mary Hendrix, "Mississippi Supreme Court Records-1799-1859". This is an abstract of the original records to be found in the Archives; so all who wish can examine them.

Parish records of Virginia, South Carolina, Maryland and many other states are good Primary Sources. Louisiana Parish records are most revealing, as the Spanish and Roman Churches demanded that the names of both parents be given--where they lived and all dates for their entries. When I discovered the American State Papers a whole new world was opened up to me as a field of Primary Sources. The Territorial Papers by Carter, "Spain in the Mississippi Valley", by Lawrence Kinnard, Georgia Passport, the United States Census Records are all good. The Census of 1850 and 1880 are most informative. The 1850 is the first to give the names and dates of the household, other

than the head of the house, and the state of birth. The 1880 is the only census to give the place of birth of the parents of the head of the household, and the relation of the inmates of each home.

The War of 1812, Bounty Lands, Land Grants and Patents are , other sources with which to work,

There are any number of fine books compiled, giving abstracts of deeds, marriages, lotteries, early County records and tax rolls. The Journals of our early ministers and Bishops should not be overlooked. These often give the names of the families where they were entertained over night, where they held meetings, funerals and baptisms, mentioning many members of the families, and always giving that most important thing - the dates.

Many abstracts of wills of most states are accepted by genealogists. From my own experience, however, you have to go to the source for the correct proof. For instance, I was searching for the proven parents of Jane Wyly. Olds "Will Book" gives the abstract of a James Wyly in Mecklenberg County, North Carolina. I knew the name of only one member of Jane's family, a brother, Harris McKinley Wyly. In the list of children, he was not mentioned by Olds. I always passed this listing by, even though it intrigued me. Because of an old letter on the Wyly family from Georgia, I had searched Georgia and South Carolina rather than North Carolina for a Wyly will. When in Charlotte, North Carolina five years ago, looking for other families, I ran across the will of James Wyly, 1771. He named his wife and children, such as John, Robert, and James, to whom he gave his patent of lands in Botetourt County, Virginia; and to his daughters Mary, Martha and Jane, the usual gifts of slaves, horses, clothes and furniture, and last, the most revealing item of the will to me - "I leave to my youngest son, Harris McKinley Wyly, the lands I now live on".

Another result of my searching for proof was the case of George Killion. He was in the Natchez District as early as 1783 but disappeared from the Natchez Records about 1804. I could find no will, estate papers, or where he had sold any land. In 1800, he had given land to his son, Joseph Killion and to his son-in-law, Abraham Gwaltney. In searching the American State Papers, Vol. 5, "Public Lands", I found where George Killion and his sons, Joseph and George Jr., had taken up a patent of lands in St. Helena Parish, Louisiana, in 1804. I went to Livingston, and to the Land Office in Baton Rouge, and found the proof.

The best piecing together I have ever done was proving the parents of Sara Smith and her husband, Jeremiah Vardaman. This proof had eluded genealogists for years. I had traced the migration of these families from South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky to Marion County, Mississippi Territory (1811), the part that later became Pike County in 1815. Pike County Records burned and now the only early available records are the Tax Rolls. I had a record of the Bible of Isaac and Elizabeth Smith Roberts, which stated that "Sarah Smith died September 18, 1832, the mother of Elizabeth Roberts". I decided to see if these Smith sisters, whose husbands were all officers in the War of 1812, and were all dead by 1855, had applied for Land Warrants. They had, and each was a witness to the

other on their applications. In Sarah Smith Vardaman's warrant, it is stated that she married Jeremiah Vardaman in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. Sarah had stepped across the line into Louisiana for her marriage, so, because of the strict Louisiana law, the names of both parents were given; Sarah, the daughter of Sarah and Gideon Smith of Marion County, Mississippi Territory, Jeremiah Vardaman, son of William and Ann Vardaman of St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. This was the reward of eight years' search, showing that if you are driven by the hunt and the quest, you can find evidence, that is, bits and pieces can be evaluated from scattered primary sources, fitted together, and be accepted as proven data. You notice, I am like the gambler. I only tell of my success, not the many unfinished lines that baffle me.

THE USE OF PRINTED MATERIALS

Mrs. Elinor Fletcher
New Orleans, Louisiana

As a former library assistant in a public library in New York State and Shreveport, Louisiana, where in the latter library, I had the opportunity to reorganize the genealogical books and materials into one department, I have now become engaged in genealogy as a semi-professional in my spare time from my position as cataloguer in Tulane Law Library, thus I may say that I have had ten years on both sides of the main desk and specializing in people and records intensively. I tell you this because I may have some bitter words to say as a result of this experience.

I shall try to help those of us who are beginning our researches, as well as those who have spent many years trying to break the barrier which librarians have thrown up against us. In some cases breaking the sound barrier is a mere bagatelle in comparison.

In brief, to many, if not most, librarians, the word genealogist is anathema. Yea, they cringe at the sight of one even suspected of such an association. We and they are both at fault, in this. Our profession is research; the profession of librarian implies in part a person trained to disseminate information.

Why, the impasse? We, do not take time enough to learn to use a library correctly; they, do not have time to do our work for us, and they do not understand that we are not pursuing our progenitors down the shadowy vales of time for purposes other than self-veneration.

Much good work is being done by Societies such as the Louisiana Genealogical Society to dignify and refine the processes of genealogical labors. We are named the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, this may be, at last, the approach to the polite confines of library halls and our social acceptance by librarians.

The fact that this Institute is sponsored by the Department of History of Louisiana State University is balm to my soul, as well, as that of Mrs. Polk. Are we not historians? Are we accepted as such? If we should approach the main desk at the library and announce that we are doing historical research, would that change that "withdrawn" look, to one of welcome? I suggest that we strain every nerve to improve our work methods and beg history departments to lift the bar-sinister which seems to be emblazoned on our shield and legitimize us.

Take your stance upon the floor of the library, raise your lance, and survey the scene. Fix your eye upon the card catalogue, and by-passing the phalanx at the main desk - charge upon it. Pray you, do not leave the catalogue until you have filled out your slips,

complete with call numbers. The more time you take to do it, the more you will know what is going to help you in this. Look under every heading which bears remotely on your problem, before you decide there is nothing there. Be sure that there are not separate catalogues for newspapers and magazines, before preparing to do battle. Perhaps, there may be a separate tray (drawer, to you) for genealogical material. You have ammunition; now, lean upon your shield of anonymity, for a moment, who is the king of the castle, here? If the library is the keep of a club or society, you may need to know the password, failing that, you may have to prostrate yourself before the port-cullis and beg for sanctuary, lay down your lance and plumes trailing, you must say, "O, King, may I speak and live?" If, however, serfs and peasants pay taxes for its upkeep, even if you are a stranger, march boldly forward. Much, much is required of a civil servant, I speak with authority, somewhere accessible by carrier pigeon there is always the Lord Mayor.

You have reached the battlements, and your adversary is a serf whose brain aches from playing quiz games all day, whose eyes are blurred from scanning microfilm or old newspapers to find who played left-end in that foot-ball game in 1902, who has in the work-room, which you will never see, a monumental pile of the first newspapers printed in de LaZouche County, to be processed. Besides, that old man is going to call back in fifteen minutes, and she has not found the answer yet.

Friend, before you join battle, remember, her feet hurt .. all librarians feet hurt all the time. Restrain yourself, do not tell her the story of your life, forgo the opportunity to give her the details of how you proved that Cousin Emmy was really in direct line from Harold the last of the Saxons. Nine times out of ten she will not give a darn .. but some time in your life, you will rush to scale the breach and you will get the reply, "Really, how wonderful, well, so am I, but thru the Jones branch of the family". You will have made a friend for life.

Now, seriously, I wish to pass on to you some methods I have used in libraries which ostensibly do not have any genealogical material. Many of us do not have anything more to consult than a small town library very inadequately staffed, or even, can only use a Book-mobile. Immerse yourself in the history of your state. If, your research takes you into another, the same thing applies of course. Genealogical books are usually never on loan, but any material of historical nature may be obtained as long as it is not in the "rare" category. Use biographies freely of persons in the area you are examining.

Ask your librarian to get you most recently published works of this kind, of any phase of life, published about the area with which you are concerned. In most books published since about the early twenties, you will find, both extensive bibliographies, and listed footnotes in the back of the volume. These improve in scope and accuracy as the present day publications show. Patrons in the library used to tell me that these works had no help for them. But, this is how you use them.

I had to trace a family about which I knew nothing but that they came from Beaufort County, North Carolina. I borrowed every history of North Carolina, I could get from the New York State Library, and saw continuing mention in the earlier ones as a foot-note, Stephen B. Weeks, Southern Quakers and Slavery, this I finally was able to obtain after I moved to Shreveport from our hosts of today, the Hill-Memorial Library. In that book, this family was named as a prominent Quaker one of the early days. No one knew this until I found out thru a foot-note in a history of the state. This was implemented by our faithful Hinshaw.

On another occasion, by systematically working the list of sources in the back of a biography, I found reference to the Genealogical trees of the family I was working on at the time in an historical magazine, and was able to obtain the magazine from our library in Shreveport, thus saving hours and hours of tracing.

I list any reference, (in the note-book - which goes where I go), which I think may tell of a migration, a political upheaval, or economic situation, which might affect a family living in the part of the state in which I have interest. In this way, when I go to a library I am able to check from my list and this invariably leads to the primary source, which Mrs. Polk has so ably discussed.

When I was at the Institute in Washington, I asked the lecturer whether there was any way to find out a list of passengers on a ship, Elizabeth, which set sail from Liverpool in 1699, bearing what I believe to be my progenitor to this country. I was told not a chance, but in reading Tobacco Coast by Arthur Pierce Middleton, a history of merchant shipping put out by the Mariner's Museum, I found a reference to such a ship and checking the list of notes, I found the exact source, the Archives in Maryland, with all needful information, and exact page in Col. Reports, I regret to say that I have not had time to go any further with this but, my heart is burgeoning with hope, another clue!

Do not neglect published theses if they seem to pertain, for some hardworking student has done a lot to save you time and money, and you can bet he has listed, but every source used. College libraries can help you in this phase as many have a separate catalogue of theses.

Many patrons have said to me that they have no interest in tracing beyond the shore of America, those of you who share this sentiment will not be interested in what I am about to say. Hill Memorial, Howard-Tillton and Tulane Law Library, (I have not checked Miss Kate Wallach's catalogue yet,) have excellent published early English records.

If you are going in for this, may I suggest you get Colonists in Bondage by Abbot E. Smith, which is not classified as a "genealogy book" and really read it. It is a most valuable tool for a clear understanding of the term "indentured servant".

Two volumes which are well worth the price are edited by David C. Douglas as part of a series called English Historical Documents - Volume VIII for the period 1660-1714 and Volume IX which deals with documents of the American Revolution. The excerpts will give you a feeling and understanding for the life of the period, and the

bibliographies are exhaustive, they will give indication of source material which is so hard to come by when you are in a quandary about where to turn next.

Printed materials such as these may and can save you hours of time and money. Check and double check all printed genealogies written in the earlier days.

More and more records are available to us as every day passes. Societies such as ours are striving to raise the standard of research. Uncle Dudley used what he could get, but he was also just as liable to have a cousinly row with Lulu, that was on his father's side, and just to get even, left her out of The Book.

So storm the battlements, charge right in and I do hope you come back with your shield and not on it.

ORGANIZING MATERIALS

Katherine Colbert
Shreveport, Louisiana

I am honored to be asked to speak to you, being so much an amateur among some of you who have had so much more experience than I. My topic is Organizing Materials, which will necessarily consider filing, also, as the two are closely related. There are two aspects to this topic, or rather, two questions to be answered. They are:

1. What do we do with the materials we have collected so that they will be of most value to us personally?
2. How do we organize our material for distribution to family members, or for publication?

First let us consider the organization of material for our own use- and I would like to advise anyone who is just starting out on the adventure of genealogy (and it can be a thrilling adventure) not to start as I did in my ignorance some five years ago. At that time I armed myself with a notebook, or composition book such as school children use, and sallied forth to the public library where I read indiscriminately and made notes in the same manner, first on one family name, then another. All my notes followed each other with very little break between families, and with imperfect references to volume and page. On trips away from home I used pocket notebooks in which notes on tombstone inscriptions, family Bible records, court records, or other sources were mixed in with expenses of the trip or other unrelated information. In some cases I even used loose papers on which to make notes. You can readily see how wrong I was. The hodge-podge which resulted required much time to find any particular item when it was needed. When I awakened to a realization of what I was doing, I obtained a large loose-leaf notebook and prepared dividers with family names, behind these dividers I filed my notes on each family separately: library notes with references, giving title of book, author, date of publication, volume and page; census records; Bible records, giving publication date, original owner, and present owner; court records, giving reference to volume and page, and location of record; and tombstone inscriptions, giving location of the cemetery.

In the front of each family section I have filed printed forms on which family data is recorded. I like one which provides for entering the ancestor's name at the top, with spaces for dates and place of birth and death, marriage date and place, name of wife with her birth and death dates and places, and names of her parents. Then follow spaces for recording similar data for each child. My form provides spaces for eleven (11) children. Another sheet is used for each

child whose line is to be traced. Experienced genealogists say that you are not doing a scholarly job unless you trace whole families. If there were more than eleven children, another page may be used, or the back of the page may be utilized. (For example: my great grandfather was married twice and had fourteen (14) children - therefore I used two pages.)

If there was more than one marriage of the ancestor, separate pages may be used for each marriage, or the back of the page may be used, depending upon the amount of data to be recorded, but the same form should be followed as that on the face of the form. The back of the sheet may also be used for recording special items of family history, biography, or sources of information.

In filling out these forms the full or complete name should always be used. There will be cases where there is a middle initial for which no name is known. Put it in, it may furnish a clue some day. Never ditto names or dates. Dates should be written, day-month-year, or month-day-year. Do not use numerals for months. Do not abbreviate names. If there is a nickname, give the proper name first, as "Anne on Nancy". Do not approximate death or marriage dates. Birth dates may be approximated by working from any known date. For example, by subtracting an arbitrary figure from the marriage date, or by subtracting from a known date of death, where the age at death is given - as, "Died in the 66th year of her age", with death date given. A birthdate may be approximated from the Census record (beginning with 1850). The exact date of the enumeration will appear on the Census returns. Dates which are approximated should be written on the chart preceded by the word "about" or "ca". When the name of a person appears again on another sheet, be sure that all information is repeated exactly as it was given the first time.

In listing the children of the ancestor, put names in chronological order in as far as possible, eldest first. It is a good idea to indicate sex by the capital letter "M" or "F" in the margin. Names can be very confusing, especially if the person did not marry. In the list of children, identify your own ancestor by a star or some other symbol in the margin in front of the name. Second or third marriages of children may be recorded on the back of the record sheet.

It is well to check the information you have entered in the forms to be sure that names agree; surnames of husband and wife are in agreement, and those of children and parents.

There are other forms and family group sheets of various designs which have equal merit with this one, and may be used according to personal preference.

To return to my notebook: In a miscellaneous section I have filed an 8-generation chart which folds to 8½"x11" size. It is invaluable for easy reference, and nothing shows up quite so well the areas in which you need to work, as do those blank spaces looming up before you. In lines where I have gone well beyond the eight generations, I have continued the line on a page of the notebook, in very abbreviated form. The chart shows only the direct line, has spaces for birth and death dates, marriage date, and place of birth. Though

not provided for on the printed chart which I use, there is, for the first five (5) generations, space enough to write in the place of marriage, and death. The back of the form may be used to list references, which should be numbered to correspond with the names on the front, which, for eight (8) generations, run from "1" through 255. Other chart forms are a fan-shaped one, the "tree" form, one which is a perfect circle with your own name in the center, the D.A.R. Pedigree Chart, and others.

This notebook will in time become inadequate, at that time I will divide my material and utilize two books, one for the paternal lines and one for the material. This might be expanded to include one book for the lines of each of the four grandparents.

The same results may be obtained by the use of manila envelopes for segregating material by families, with a brief outline on the outside to indicate what is filed therein. Some genealogists include all correspondence in this file. I prefer a separate file for correspondence, which I keep in manila folders by families. It is also recommended by some authorities that correspondence be filed by name of correspondent, by state, or by city. I do not favor this method unless an accurate cross-index is maintained.

Another method by which family data may be organized is by the use of index cards (3"x5" is a good size) which will be filed by family name, and different types of information might be entered on separate cards. Other means are - by the use of a white window shade which may be rolled up or down as information is needed, and by using graph paper. What I have seen used is the kind which is used in weather recording instruments, it is fan-fold (folds back and forth upon itself). It can be stretched from here to yonder and there is no end to the amount of data which may be recorded upon it.

II. Organizing materials for the use of others.

I have myself had the experience of being a partner in the compiling of a family history. The first sentence in the book has been said to be the best sentence in the entire book. That sentence is: "The story of our family is the story of the South." Thus the stage is set for the narrative which tells the history of the common ancestor with whom we began the book. We called the first section of the book, "The Story of Our Family." Our data was organized in such manner as to tell that story, of the effect upon the family of historic events such as Indian uprisings, treaties with the Indians leading to the opening up of new lands to settlement, of the removal of the family to these new lands; for instance, from Georgia to the wilderness that was Montgomery County, Alabama in 1817. And it should be noted that the moves which our pioneering ancestors made from state to state were often for longer distances than most of us today have ever made (in seeking new homes) and under infinitely more difficult circumstances; then the War Between the States in which our grandfathers served, and the lean times which followed-- all of which can be duplicated in the story of many a family.

After this story, which tells also of marriages, births of children, and settlement of these children in their own homes, comes the main statistical portion of the book. Immediately following the

"Story," is a list of the children, with year of birth, and number of the page in which their data begins. The common ancestor bears no number for identification, neither do his twelve children whose names are set out in capital letters. The family of each of the twelve is traced through to the present generation, taking them in order, completing one family unit before another is begun. The grandchildren of the common ancestor, the third generation, are identified by Roman numerals and capitalization of names; their children, the fourth generation; bear arabic numerals and names in italics; the fifth generation are identified by arabic numerals in parenthesis, the sixth, by small letters, a, b, c, etc., and names italicized; the seventh, by a, b, c, etc., in parenthesis, within the paragraph; the eighth generation is unnumbered.

The entry for each person is set out in paragraph form with the exception of the seventh and eighth generations. Any biographical material and items of interest which were known to the compilers or could be obtained have been presented following the vital statistics for each person, before the listing of their children.

The work of organizing material was done largely by working from letters or (often) imperfectly completed forms, or questionnaires, and entailed the laborious sifting out of pertinent facts and entering them first in outline form to coincide with the plan I have mentioned. It might be mentioned that if questionnaires are sent out, there should be no questions which can be answered "yes" or "no", because in many cases that will be all you will receive in reply. The question "Was your father born in Texas?" might bring the reply "No", with no further information.

Our manuscript, which we typed ourselves, was given to the printer in final form. No printed forms were used.

The index is very important. Many times we all, I am sure, have laid aside an unindexed book because we did not have time to read through it. I made the index from our manuscript. When we received our page proofs, I made up a "conversion table" - i. e., a certain page number in the manuscript became page number so-and-so in the printed book. This method enabled us to save much time in preparation of the index.

There is a printed form (or forms) which may be used to prepare the printer's copy. The use of a form places the material before the typesetter in an orderly manner. If all dates are in the same place on each page, and other data is uniformly arranged, much time is saved, as well as greater accuracy. Separate pages should be used for parents, children, and biography, and it will thus be easier to insert last minute information. The form used should provide spaces for the family name, a number or letter code for identification, the name of the person to whom the sheet applies, the line of descent, and data regarding birth, death, marriage, routine items of education, occupation, military service and public or community service, and a column for listing references as to authority for statements. A separate sheet should be used for listing the children with data pertinent to each one.

Different face type may be used for the wording of the form

which is not to appear in the finished book.

As an illustration of methods of organization, I would like to tell you about a family record book which was compiled during the 1860's by a descendant of the Calhoun family of South Carolina, and which I had an opportunity to copy last year. This record was begun by a short paragraph which states that the original Calhoun came from Donegal, Ireland and settled in Pennsylvania. Four sons and one daughter came to South Carolina before 1760. (The mother of the family died in an Indian Massacre at Long Cane, South Carolina in 1760).

The compiler then stated "The children of James Calhoun were _____", and named them. Next, he said, "James Calhoun's grandchildren were _____", and "James Calhoun's great grandchildren were _____", and "James Calhoun's great great grandchildren were _____". The families of each of the children (the four brothers and one sister) are given in this manner. It is necessary to continually look back in order to keep in mind the line of descent, and the unfortunate thing is that few dates were given. However, there is much valuable information in the book, and many little human interest touches, as the compiler was personally acquainted with many of the people about whom he wrote. The original book is hand written, fading and crumbling. It does not belong to me, and I will always be grateful for the opportunity which was given me to make a copy, and grateful to the Presbyterian Minister (a distant relation of mine) who so long ago was so interested in his family that he compiled this book.

References consulted:

The Art of Ancestor Hunting, Oscar F. Stetson, 1936
Searching for your Ancestors, Gilbert H. Doane, 1937-48
The ABC's of American Genealogical Research, E. Kay Kirkham

THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT
OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Mrs. Jane W. Melton
Clinton, Mississippi

Members of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, visitors, and others, I bring you greetings from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and my chief, Miss Charlotte Capers, who sends best wishes for this first Institute and her personal regards to old friends.

I might begin by giving you some idea of our Department, as it seems that about the only things such departments have in common is their difference. In most states the State Library is the place for genealogical research. In Mississippi our State Library is located in the Capitol building and is mainly a law library for the use of the Supreme Court, legislature and lawyers. In most states even the historical and genealogical library is one department, and the archival agency is another. Sometimes the museum is completely separate. We are a big circus with many rings under the one big top. We have custody of the museum, historic spots, archives, research library, military records etc. We are the headquarters for the Mississippi Historical Society, though we have no official connection with it. Miss Capers is editor-in-chief of the Journal of Mississippi History, the official organ of the Historical Society. Our Mississippi Genealogical Society has no connection with the Department or the Historical Society. It is purely private with a rather small membership. In addition to the other activities of the Archives Department we are inheriting the micro-photo department and the renovation of the Old Capitol building, which will house the museum. I am sure we have other activities which I cannot recall just now, but it is mainly the genealogical phase of our work in which you are interested.

Dr. Dunbar Rowland was the first director of the Department when it was established in 1902. (It is the second oldest such Department in the United States). He continued as Director until his death in 1938. Dr. W. D. McCain became director at that time and continued as such until he resigned to become president of Mississippi Southern College in 1955, at which time Miss Capers became Director. Dr. Rowland's chief work as far as succeeding generations are concerned was the writing of an encyclopedia of Mississippi history, Mississippi, in 1907. This is in three volumes, two of history and one of biography. Later in 1925 he wrote Mississippi, the Heart of the South, which is in most southern libraries. The first two volumes of this are history, the second two biography of contemporary people. In the first volume are listed several things in which

you may be interested. My subject was supposed to be what you might find in our Department to help with Louisiana research. Really we have very little on Louisiana as such except perhaps that part of Louisiana that is in Mississippi! In other words the part from the Mississippi River eastward to Pearl River might be included in some early records of the Natchez District. This first volume of Heart of the South contains the 1792 Spanish census of the Natchez District. There are also listed the English Land Grants, 1768-1779, nine pages of names. This is also published in an article by Mrs. Rowland in Vol. 1, centenary series of the Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society. I might say here that our Department does not have land grants. These lists, taken from manuscript, and very early tax rolls which indicate from whence the land was obtained, are all that we have of that nature. There are some original grants placed here as museum exhibits or for safe keeping by individuals. The Mississippi Land Office advises us that they have the early Natchez land grants listed by the name of the owner. Later than that their records are filed by land description, not by name.

Other material that might be helpful in locating persons in the Natchez District in the early days are the American State Papers with which you are familiar. We have microfilm of the early Spanish records in Natchez. Some are translated, some in Spanish. I neglected to mention that we have copies of the official correspondence between the Governors or officials of the French, English and Spanish governments and the province that included Mississippi. The French ones have been translated into English by Dr. Rowland and Dr. Sanders of Millsaps College and are in three volumes. The English records are in one volume. Some of the Spanish records have been translated, the rest is still in script. Very little genealogical information is contained in these records, but the Department has the French and English volumes which can be bought for \$3.50 each. Mrs. McBee's Natchez Court Records, 1767 to 1805, is practically an abstract of the Spanish Court Records which we have on microfilm.

The Oath of Allegiance to the United States, signed by citizens of the Natchez District in 1798, is contained in the back of Naturalization Records of Mississippi compiled by the U.P.A. This list was verified from our manuscript by Mr. Bickham Christian and Mrs. Boyd Edwards and was printed in the National Genealogical Quarterly for June, 1954

Dr. Cyril E. Cain, retired professor at State College, Mississippi, has written a little book, Flags over Mississippi. In this he discusses West Florida, that strip of land which extended from the Chattahoochee River on the east, to the Mississippi River on the west, and north to the 31st parallel. He has prepared some maps of this area which may interest you. Records for this part of the country seem to be in several places. Some of the petitions in the "Carter Papers" (Territorial Papers of the United States by Carter, Vols. V and VI Mississippi) mention the inhabitants of that area carrying their petitions to Baton Rouge. Other things mention Pensacola as their capital or headquarters. The American State Papers, and some of our early tax rolls contain some information. We also

have a roster of soldiers who served in the War of 1812 from Mississippi when this district - or rather the present Mississippi coast - became a part of it. To finish up the Natchez District, however - there is a book called Natchez Court Records by Mrs. King, now of California, containing Miscellaneous Natchez records, and the U.P.A. survey of Natchez Court Records is in two volumes. We still have some of those available.

We have manuscript census records for Wilkinson County 1805 (included in Dr. Casey's Amite County book), and 1810 for several others. These have been edited into the Journal of Mississippi History, one county to an issue. Some of these Journals may still be available at \$1.00 each. The "inhabitants of Mississippi Territory" for 1816 was printed in the Mississippi Official and Statistical Register for 1917 (centennial year). Where there was no census for the county, Dr. Rowland supplied a tax roll. This list includes the counties of Mississippi Territory now in the state of Alabama. This is the book that contains information on the current legislature etc. and might be found in nearly any county library in Mississippi and many in Louisiana. This particular volume gives sketches of the Territorial governors as well as later ones, and some history of the state.

The Georgia passports, which we have on microfilm is a fine source of information helpful in connecting the persons definitely known to be in this section with those of the same name back in the Carolinas and Georgia. Passports to come through the Indian Nation had to be secured at Milledgeville, then the capital of Georgia, before persons could travel to the Western Country - which was everything west of Georgia.

Besides the manuscript census records just mentioned, we have manuscript tax rolls for the Mississippi Counties up to around 1850. We have the 1820 census of Mississippi typed in a book and the subsequent census years through 1880 on microfilm. We have the 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 mortality schedules and 1850 and 1860 slave schedules. In addition to these we have agricultural and industrial census records.

Our library of some 16,000 volumes is mainly Mississippi material, history and biography of Mississippi and the southern states. We have a good deal of Virginia material and Revolutionary records of southern states. We have 1790 census records for the New England states and all the southern states, the Reconstructed census of Delaware for 1790, and the 1782 etc. tax rolls of Virginia which serve for their 1790 census. Virginia Tax Payers by Fothergills supplies the data on the counties which the Virginia tax roll omits. We have the 1820 census of Alabama, all that they have, printed in one of their Quarterlies. Included in this same number are miscellaneous appointments for the same period for counties not included in the census. Other out-of-state census records on file here are - and these are complete unless otherwise stated:

Alabama, 1830 and 1840; Tennessee, 1830 and 3 reels of 1850; Georgia, 1820 and 1830; South Carolina, 1810 and 1830; North Carolina 1830.

There are many things that come to mind that I have not mentioned.

We have Mississippi newspapers back to 1805. Several years ago our Mississippi Genealogical Society copied the vital statistics from the central Mississippi newspapers. These are being run serially in the Journal of Mississippi History. These statistics, up to 1850, sometimes contain notices of estate administrations for the south Mississippi counties whose records have been destroyed. Anyone may join the Mississippi Historical Society, membership \$4.00 a year, which includes subscription to the Journal. Our Department is headquarters for the Society if you would like more information regarding this.

We are glad to answer inquiries by mail if it does not require microfilm checking or detailed research. We shall be glad to hear from you, or see you any week day from 8:30 to 4:30, or Saturdays from 8:30 to noon. As Mrs. Fletcher has said: "Sail right up to the battlements and charge right in". We'll be glad to have you.

HISTORY OF THE ST. TAMMANY AREA

Adrian Schwartz

Somewhere near the mouth of the Mississippi, in 1682, La Salle took possession of what was later known as the Louisiana Territory, for France, but it was not until February, 1699 that an attempt was made to colonize the province. It was then that the brothers Iberville and Bienville, heading a company of several hundred French Canadians landed near Biloxi. During the same month Iberville located, with the aid of Boyou Goula guides, the Mississippi passes, which La Salle had signally overlooked. He took a landing party in smaller boats from his ships and ascended the river beyond Baton Rouge, visiting various Indian settlements, and with a Frenchman's tact cultivated the friendship of the inhabitants. After that his main party returned down stream to the Gulf Coast, while he and several companions in birch-bark canoes entered what is now the Iberville river and paddling on down through the Amite, across Lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain, continuing their way through the Rigolets and finally rejoining their forces on the Coast sometime late in March. These intrepid Frenchmen were the first of civilized men to set foot on St. Tammany soil.

In June of the same year, Bienville, still in his teens headed a peace mission to the Acolapissa tribe, then located at what is now known as Indian Village on Pearl River about twelve miles from its mouth, opposite Honey Island. This tribe in all numbered about 1200, of which 250 were warriors. Their customs were similar in all respects to those which the explorers learned about from the other natives they had visited. After the establishment of the city of New Orleans the Acolapissas followed the French to the south shore of the lake about 1730. Acolapissa means "People who listen and see". In their wake a portion of the great Choctaw nation came from the upper region of Pearl River in Mississippi and occupied the St. Tammany wilderness until their tribal remnants were finally removed to Indian Territory in the 90's.

The historical position of St. Tammany Parish on the map may be traced as follows: From the days of Louis XIV, 1699, to the close of the Seven Years War, 1763, it was part of the Biloxi District of the Louisiana province. When that war ended with the loss by France of all her territory on the American Continent to England, it was included in the British maps as part of the Manchac District of British West Florida. At the close of the American Revolution, when the Spanish forces at New Orleans, under Galvez, joined hands with the colonies, the country was taken over by Spain, and the royal surveyors classed it as the Chiffonta District of Feliciana. In 1810, this section in

Louisiana lying between the Pearl and Mississippi rivers rose in revolt against Ferdinand VIII of Spain. The settlers set up a miniature republic, which had an ephemeral existence of 74 days. During that time the part lying between St. Helena and the Pearl was awkwardly designated as St. Ferdinand. In 1811, following the proclamation of President Madison annexing Spanish West Florida to the United States, Territorial Governor W. C. C. Claiborne carved Feliciana into four parishes. This one he tagged St. Tammany. Taimenand, or Tammany, was a Delaware Indian chief. The name signifies affable or friendly, an idea which the Governor no doubt hoped the large number of red-skins here would seize upon.

At the time Spain assumed power in 1779, there were not more than fifteen or twenty English and Scotch Irish families who had settled in this edenic wilderness. Their British land grants were all located in liberal lots along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain between the Lacombe and the Tangipahoa rivers. Following a naval battle off Mandeville between British and American sloops-of-war, in which the Britisher was captured, Captain William Pickles came ashore and received an oath of allegiance of all the settlers to the American Colonies.

After 1785, when the so-called Great Western Movement from the Atlantic Seaboard began, Miro, the Spanish Governor, at New Orleans induced a large number of pioneers chiefly from Georgia and the Carolinas to settle in these parts. They located principally along the Bogue Chitto, Pearl, Tchefuncte and Tangipahoa rivers, and it is from that sturdy stock that a large portion of the present day inhabitants boast their descent.

In 1811, Coquille, or Cokie Bank, on the Tchefuncte, became Madisonville. Writing in 1812 concerning Madisonville Amos Stoddard says in Sketches of Louisiana:

"At present this town is little more than a name attached to an elegant, healthy and eligible spot of ground for a seaport town. About half a dozen French built mud-walled huts, and about as many log cabins, and two or three frames are all of the present improvements."

Prominent among the first settlers were the Baham and Edwards families. The town was laid out by the heirs of Joseph Baham and incorporated by the Legislature in February of 1817. One feature of the charter provided that all persons subject to military draft were "to have the liberty of voting" irrespective of age.

In December 1803, Jaques Drieux, a New Orleans creole acquired from the Spanish Government, 1600 acres lying in the fork between the Bogue Falaya and Tchefuncte rivers, on which he planned the Town of St. James. Due to the instability of the times and the meager population nothing came of it until some time after the annexation of the Florida Parishes to Orleans Territory, when John Wharton Collins in May 1813, bought the "town" from Drieux with its claim to four inhabitants for \$2300. Collins was a young New Orleans merchant who with others of his family had migrated from Philadelphia and established themselves in New Orleans and St. Tammany soon after the Louisiana Purchase. On July 4, he dedicated a portion of the area which he called the Division of St. John of Wharton. The Collins were off-shoots of

the Wharton family of England made famous by the Whig leader, Thomas Marquis of Wharton in King Williams' time (1690). In March 1816 Wharton was incorporated by the Legislature, but in doing so the law-makers changed the name to Covington, in honor of General Leonard A. Covington, a hero of the War of 1812. Shortly before this happened the Town of Covington, Kentucky was named to honor the same person. The often repeated story that the name was inspired by a label found on a Covington Kentucky whiskey keg is an absurdity.

Following the defeat of the British at New Orleans and threats of a Choctaw uprising having subsided, the Parish in general and the new town of Madisonville in particular, took on a more attractive look. Collins removed his business establishment to Covington, and energetically pushed the sale of his building sites. The start was immediate, but he did not live long to see his town grow. He died in 1817 at the age of 29, thereby founding by his death the only cemetery Covington has required until recently. Collins left one son, Thomas Wharton, who has been long known as a noted writer and jurist. Judge Collins died in 1887.

In spite of its isolation by water for three-quarters of a century, a great and varied commerce was carried on between the Parish and New Orleans. As early as 1816 Darby in his Travels writes of the large business done with the two towns. He refers to cotton, beef, pork, hides, dairy-cheese, lumber, pitch, lime and bricks, "including all kinds of poultry". Poultry no doubt implied the vast abundance of wild game in those days on which New Orleanians feasted. St. Tammany clay has always proved to be the finest for firing, and up to the time of the Civil War half the building and paving bricks used in New Orleans were manufactured from it.

During the War of 1812 General David B. Morgan, one of the early founders of Madisonville; became second in command to General Jackson at the defense of New Orleans. His troops stationed on the west bank of the Mississippi, by their delaying action, prevented the British from making a rear attack on Chalmette during the main engagement; which might have proved disastrous. General Morgan was the great-grandfather of the late Lewis L. Morgan, Congressman from St. Tammany during the Wilson regime.

In 1819 the area of St. Tammany was about 1800 square miles, and contained about 4000 inhabitants, the largest part of which lived in the northern half. This half was then erected into Washington Parish. In 1869, the western boundary was pushed back from Tangipahoa to the Tchefuncte to make room for the new parish of Tangipahoa. After the creation of Washington, the seat of justice was removed from Enon on the Bogue Chitto to Claiborne opposite Covington on the Bogue Falaya. After ten years Covington by an act of the legislature was made the permanent parish seat. The site of the present courthouse was established in 1838.

It was along about that time that regular steamboat service was transplanting sailing vessels on the lake, but it was still a matter of another fifty years before railroads were to penetrate the parish, though numerous charters were obtained from the legislature to operate them, such as the Madisonville & Covington (1836), Ponchatoula-Pearl

River (1837) and others, but the great panic at that time forestalled those dreams. However in 1868 the Mandeville Sulphur Springs Railroad was chartered by the legislature. This one took root but from another direction. In 1870, the name was changed to the New Orleans North Eastern, and first crossed the Eads Trestle into the newly born town of Slidell in 1882, but Covington was not reached until five years later. The N. O. N. E. is now the Southern Railway.

For nearly a century St. Tammany was regarded not only as a health resort, and a vacationist's paradise, but also the surest refuge against the summer plagues of yellow fever that came to New Orleans with alarming regularity. Hotels and summer homes seemed to nestle in nook of the dense piney woods.

Returning to other phases of the past the population of St. Tammany at the outbreak of the Civil War was 5,406 of which one-third was in bondage. On January 22, 1861, Sidney S. Conner, delegate, voted for secession. Immediately thereafter The St. Tammany Grays, commanded by Capt. Charles Crosby, and The St. Tammany Artillery under Capt. J. A. Turner were organized. The serenity of the country scene was not disturbed until the garrison from Fort Pike, having spiked their guns marched through Covington to join General Lovell's forces at Camp Moore following the evacuation of New Orleans in April 1862. Then followed three years of tragic want and suffering. Guerillas made attacks on some of the most prominent inhabitants assuming they were Union sympathizers, while foraging expeditions by Federal troopers in no time stripped the country of its livestock and crops leaving the people on the verge of famine. Black labor having been liberated, flocked to General Butler in New Orleans, and deserters from the Confederate cause retired to the densest forests near enough to their families to see them at night.

In early August, 1862, a Union Officer reporting on guerilla activities to Butler wrote that all along the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, he found traces of indiscriminate plunder and destruction. The wharfage from Lewisburg, then a shipping point was in ashes "Madisonville was deserted and every public and private building closed." Until peace was restored there were no less than 20 clashes between Federals and Confederates, and though not amounting to actual engagements took serious toll. Reconstruction, which followed improved matters little, and for twenty years thereafter the Parish came to an economic stand still.

St. Tammany's first newspaper, The Louisiana Advocate was founded in 1832, by Col. J. D. Davenport, veteran of the Seminole war, and survived until 1860. It was succeeded by the Covington Wanderer which lasted throughout the Civil War. Later it was followed by several carpetbagger journals, all published at Mandeville, The Wave, The Crescent and the Mandeville Republican. In 1874 the St. Tammany Farmer was established, and still continues as one of the top weeklies in the State. The St. Tammany Times, published at Slidell is one of the more recent contributions to the press.

Incidental to Louisiana journalism, it is worthy of note that John Gibson, a nephew of John Wharton Collins, and who succeeded him in establishing Covington in 1826, returned to New Orleans, where in

time he became owner and editor of several newspapers published there, the last being The True American, from which he wielded a powerful influence. George W. Kendall was first employed by him until elected to start the Picayune, in 1837.

THE MOVEMENT TO ESTABLISH A STATE DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY IN LOUISIANA

Honorable Wade O. Martin, Jr.
Secretary of State of Louisiana

During the time that I have served as your Secretary of State, I have undertaken many projects. Some were undertaken by direction of law, and others on a voluntary basis.

Of the many projects that I undertook on a voluntary basis, one of the most interesting to me has been the project of establishing a state department of archives and history in Louisiana.

For that reason, you can readily see why I was so grateful for the invitation I received from Mary Elizabeth Sanders to join with her and with you for a discussion of this vital program this evening.

I am quite sure that Mrs. Sanders, Dr. Edwin Davis, Mr. John Andreassen, who have been so interested and helpful in this program in the past, and all of you gathered here this evening, for that matter, will all agree that the appraisal of any subject can be done with clarity only through an examination of its history.

So, before trying to make a realistic estimate of the future of this program, let's try to make a realistic, but brief, summary of the history of the subject.

If I speak just a little longer than usual, you will know that it's because of my vital interest on the subject of records and their preservation.

Brief History of Related Programs in Louisiana
and in the Nation

My objective in discussing briefly the related programs here in Louisiana and in the nation is twofold. First, by reviewing quickly some of the outstanding work that has been done relative to the preservation of certain records here in Louisiana and in the nation we can show how the need for the preservation of these records has been widely recognized. Secondly, we can see by way of comparison what is being done elsewhere in the line of budgetary appropriations.

I know that you all share my appreciation and admiration for certain notable work that has been done here in the state. You are familiar with many of these undertakings and programs. So, without laboring all their detailed operations let me mention the excellent work that has been done and is being done here in Louisiana by such fine agencies and organization as

1. The Louisiana State Museum in New Orleans, through its exhibits and library has done much to cultivate better understanding of our state's interesting past.

2. The New Orleans City Hall Archives is equally deserving of attention (it is now a part of the New Orleans Public Library).

3. The Commissioner of Louisiana Military Records, who between 1908 and 1922 turned out the monumental four-volume listing of Louisiana's Confederate soldiers. This, incidentally, was one of the earliest state-supported efforts in the records field.

4. The Louisiana Historical Society, its work and its publications.

5. The documents division of the Secretary of State's office which has been in operation since the law creating this division was adopted in 1948. It was the result of cooperation and action between my office and the State Library Association.

This program is one which few, if any, states can equal and coupled with the publication of Miss Lucy B. Foote entitled "Bibliography of Official Publications of Louisiana from 1803 to 1934", listed hereunder as 6., we have succeeded in producing a highly effective tool in the location and identification of the printed records of our state.

6. Bibliography of Official Publications of Louisiana from 1803 to 1934.

7. Records surveys in Louisiana by agencies of the federal government. The results of the federal program in Louisiana, to be discussed more in detail under another heading, are most gratifying. Here in Louisiana the program produced 87 volumes dealing with state records. These included 4 volumes of inventories of state archives; 22 of inventories of parish archives; 2 of inventories of municipal archives; 10 guides to manuscript collections in La.; 8 volumes of manuscript transcriptions; 3 of American imprints; 2 volumes of church records inventories; 3 guides to vital statistics records; a union list of newspapers from 1794 to 1940; 2 volumes of La. boundary laws; and 24 volumes of police minutes. Also included were six volumes of "Ship Registers and Enrollments at New Orleans", which is of particular interest to genealogists.

8. The Louisiana State Library, under the capable administration of Miss Essae M. Culver.

9. The Louisiana State University Department of Archives. Some 23 years ago a young instructor in history at Louisiana State University recognized the need for an archives department in Louisiana. He was Dr. Edwin A. Davis. He is, as all of you know, now head of the Louisiana State University history department.

The act of the Legislature that was adopted created the university archives department and provided that "the university may, through its department of archives, receive and collect public records or documents and materials bearing upon the history of the state; edit and publish official records and other historical materials; and make a survey of the official records of the state, its parishes and other subdivisions." The act further stated that "state, parish and other officials may turn over to the department of archives * * for permanent preservation therein, any books, records, documents, newspaper files, original papers, or manuscripts not in current use in their offices."

The department of archives was thus established at the university.

It was placed administratively within the Hill Memorial Library, and Dr. Davis was named the first head of the department. Dr. Davis was a tireless collector of manuscript materials and Louisiana shall long owe to Dr. Davis a debt of gratitude for his long and continuing interest in properly cataloging and processing and preserving the state's records.

Much good was accomplished through the university archives department. However, the university archives department was not intended by the Legislature and could not serve as a state archives in the sense that we refer to a state archives department.

At the outset, it was obvious that while the university department was doing far more than was expected with the limited appropriations and space, the small budget and the facilities at the university could not accommodate an archives department for the state as a whole.

But, whenever any consideration is made of archives in Louisiana, mention should be made of the splendid cooperation that the state has received from Louisiana State University, from its various presidents, including particularly General Troy H. Middleton, and from Dr. Edwin A. Davis.

Before closing this brief review of some related programs in Louisiana, mention must be made of the splendid work that has been accomplished by our major libraries and the parish free library program so ably developed by the State Library, for the completeness and accessibility of valuable material.

Louisiana historians, sociologists, lawyers, clergymen, economists, have all played an important part in the fields relating to records preservation in Louisiana. Students in graduate schools, too, have had their part in these related programs.

Doubtless, special commendation is due the journalists of Louisiana. While their first concern has been to report on the scene of the moment, their devotion to accuracy has made the Louisiana files not only colorful but reliable chronicles of the past as well as the present.

It is significant in reviewing this state picture to understand that probably the most vital of all procedures relative to the preservation of records has not been mentioned because it has not been accomplished. I refer to the establishment of a central place where Louisiana documentary records can be first examined and evaluated in such a way as to destroy useless documents, and then to properly treat, process, preserve and catalog the remaining valuable ones.

In other words, what we need most we do not have - namely, a state archives and records department. How widespread has been the recognition of the need for such a department and the progress that has been made in the nation and the other states has been amply evidenced by the following short review of some of the related programs in the nation and in some of the other states.

The mid-thirties we might consider to be the beginning of the renaissance in archives and records work in America. A movement that met widespread approval and has continued at an increasing pace.

To recapitulate briefly, during that period the great National Archives Building in Washington was completed, President Franklin

D. Roosevelt signed the National Archives Act, the initial National Archives staff was recruited, and the Society of American Archivists was formally organized. Presidential advisers to President Roosevelt drafted plans for a nation-wide survey of federal records, obtained the necessary funds and undertook the project on a nation-wide basis. Headquarters were in the new National Archives Building.

Federal officials encouraged state and local officials to undertake the analysis and preservation of records throughout the nation. This program was also carried out in the various states. The results of this federal program here in Louisiana was described hereinabove.

The nation-wide movement in archives and records brought about more accessible records, better bound records, better indexed records, and thousands of guides and inventories describing the records, the location, contents and condition.

But, of course, with World War II came the dispersal of many of the archives workers into the service, and for a time some of the momentum of the movement was lost.

The titanic amount of paper work carried on under the various projects, however, had its beneficial effect, and under the momentum that was probably activated by these various programs, state after state set up similar services in connection with their archival and historical agencies.

The movement was so widespread that today Louisiana is one of the few states without an archives and records service in operation. Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, and Virginia, all have these establishments in operation and have had them for many years.

North Carolina is perhaps fairly representative with an annual budget of over \$200,000.

While it is embarrassing for me to state publicly that Louisiana is one of the few states that does not have this vital service, I have no hesitancy in making the statement because of my objective here - namely to seek further support for an archives and records department for Louisiana with appropriate budget.

The Louisiana Department of Archives and History 1944-1948

When I assumed office in 1944, and undertook to perform my functions in this important office, I immediately perceived our great need for improvements in the processing, cataloging and preserving of important state records.

It was my conviction then and now that the expenditure of a comparatively small sum of money for a state archives department would be an investment worth many millions or perhaps billions of dollars to this state, even in addition to the other attributes and benefits that normally flow from the maintenance of such a department.

I am convinced that our fight for the vast tidelands oil interests could have been a much easier one had we maintained such a department in the past. I mention that here and now because of the fact that undoubtedly further appropriations for the preservation, processing and housing of these records will come during this

administration largely, if not solely, on the basis of the likelihood of the program to directly save money which can be used elsewhere, over and above its cost of operation.

I say this because a small appropriation to commence the program was at our request adopted, as I recall without a dissenting vote in both the House and the Senate, and was vetoed by the governor with this message:

"I feel sure it is probably good legislation, but I haven't had time to go into it carefully. Regardless of the merits, we don't have the money at this time to spend for such a project. At a later date, when funds are plentiful, I will go further into it and try to help".

But, going back to the progress that has been made since 1944 when I first assumed office and our status today, in 1944 when I first assumed office, it was natural that I should turn to our state university for guidance in my contemplated program for records preservation. I consider it my good fortune and that of the state to have had the opportunity of witnessing the splendid cooperation that I received at every turn from university officials, particularly President Middleton and Dr. Davis.

First, it was the war, and then it was some other circumstance that made the introduction of appropriate bills inadvisable for a period of time. But finally, in 1954, I called Dr. Davis and together with my staff we prepared and introduced and the legislature adopted Act No. 381 of 1954.

This bill authorized by Secretary of State to conduct a survey of state, parish, municipal, colonial, territorial and federal records, with a view of ascertaining their location and availability, and to make recommendations in connection therewith.

Not the least important feature of the bill was that it appropriated \$20,000 to conduct the survey.

We then began to canvass the field of eligibles who could carry out a survey of this type within the time allotted. We were indeed fortunate in obtaining the services of John C. L. Andreassen, a former graduate student at Louisiana State University, who had been the Louisiana and Southern Regional Director of the Historical Records Survey. He agreed to make the studies contemplated by the act on behalf of the Secretary of State, and the reports necessary to be filed with the Legislature.

In the short year and a half before the report to the Legislature was due, there was produced the 520-page "Louisiana Archives Survey Report No. 1, Survey of Public Records." This provided the basis for the "Louisiana Archives Survey Report No. 2," a 21-page work containing findings and recommendations.

Both reports were submitted to the legislators, the heads of major state agencies, the Clerks of Court in the 64 parishes, and, of course, the depository libraries of the state, under the Recorder of Documents program administered by my office.

Report No. 1 provided a brief legal history of most of the state's agencies, past and present, and located some 630,000 cubic feet of records. It is based on inspection of records in use and

storage in every parish of the state.

Report No. 2 brings out that Louisiana already has modern basic records laws on the statute books relating to (1) the definition of public records; (2) the six-year retention period for public records; (3) for the photo-duplication and microfilming of records; and (4) for access to public records.

But it also brings out that Louisiana is one of the few states in the union without an active statewide archives, records administration and historical program.

In the regular session of 1956, House Bills 1074 and 1075 were introduced in the House of Representatives. Bill 1075 passed both houses, and was approved by the governor. It created the state archives and records commission, consisting of the Secretary of State, the Attorney General and the state Auditor. The commission was authorized to make rules and regulations relative to archives and records management, and to appoint a Director of an Archives and Records Service.

House Bill 1074, appropriating \$75,000 for the biennium, was also passed by both houses. But it was vetoed by the governor with the message that I previously quoted.

Subsequently the state Board of Liquidation, and, in 1957, the governor's special Legislative Budget Committee, denied our requests for funds.

We are again requesting an appropriation - roughly \$35,000 - for the next fiscal year. In comparison with North Carolina's annual expenditure of \$200,000 for similar purposes, we feel that this amount is very modest indeed.

So, here is a paradox: we have what the present Archivist of the United States has described as "the best records act in the nation on statute books." But we're also about the only state in the nation without a really integrated statewide archives, records and historical program.

Resume of Status Today

In other words, we have a well balanced and moderate plan. We know what, and how much, has to be dealt with; and we can implement the plan in a small way, or a large way, as soon as funds are available.

Most important, it seems to me, is the fact that the records management portion of the plan can in a very short time save enough tax money to more than pay for an overall, ideal state program.

In the time allotted me this evening, I cannot, of course, deal with all our difficulties. But I would like to re-emphasize what I consider the most serious and costly problem that we have. That is the fact that we are creating and keeping so much paper that is unnecessary, so much of fleeting value, that we are threatening to bankrupt ourselves.

Prospects for the Future

All of you can help our prospects for the future. You probably all know some legislator that you can talk to and describe the advant-

ages and need for a state archives department and adequate appropriations for its operation.

And, in addition, since in my opinion the prospects for the future with this administration at least will depend upon a showing of financial savings of money that could be used elsewhere, you can help to publicize the fact that we have found that 30 percent of all the records we examined were obsolete, or of little value, and that another 30 percent could very well be destroyed within a few years.

So, we have to consider not only the need for identification and preservation of essential records, and the orderly destruction of unessential ones-but also birth control in the creation of records! If we don't call a halt somewhere, we may all be buried under an avalanche - a mountain of paper so great that no one, or no group could ever hope to find where the item sought is recorded.

As a matter of fact, state agencies in Louisiana today are renting space that costs over \$150,000 a year to hold useless records. If we could eliminate just 30 percent - those records clearly not in use - we could release more than two million dollars worth of filing cabinets now crammed with what is, to all intents and purposes, waste paper!

For those of you who have not seen the recommendations of the Louisiana Archives Survey, or the Archives and Records Commission Act of 1956, I have brought a limited supply for distribution.

Louisiana has a long way to go to catch up in the matter of a state archives, records and historical agency. We have good legislation on the statute books, as I have said, but we need greater public recognition of the legislation's potentialities. As of now, by spending \$200,000 a year under the legislation, Louisiana taxpayers could be saved four to five times that much every year! And our citizens would receive far better service on records at every level of government.

Conclusion

I want to repeat that it has been a genuine pleasure to have the opportunity of meeting and discussing this important subject with you.

Mrs. Martin and I shall long remember our enjoyable evening with you.

The archives and records program is one important phase of the office of Secretary of State. There are many other vital services that we render daily to you and the other citizens of Louisiana.

I hope that at every opportunity you will call upon us for those services, that we may always give you the fine, quick service to which you are entitled.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF LETTERS AND QUERIES

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Sanders
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

One of the most effective ways of obtaining genealogical information is through correspondence. When one begins work on a family history, one of the initial steps is to contact older members of the immediate family in the attempt to collect all data available. When this has been collected and organized and the problem analyzed, there are several steps that can then be taken; one is correspondence.

It is only logical, when seeking knowledge of any sort, to consult reference sources to ascertain what is already known on the subject, and genealogical research is no different from any other research in this respect.

The main problem is, after known relatives have been contacted, whom to contact? There are several ways of finding out; a hit-or-miss proposition would be, for instance, to check surnames in city and telephone directories. The most effective way is consulting genealogical periodicals. When you see a query for information or a family name in an exchange column, you can have no doubt that the writer has some information to impart.

Most genealogical periodicals have a query and/or exchange column. As you know, the bi-monthly periodical of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, the Genealogical Register, has a regular query department and from time-to-time has run an exchange column. The query department is one of the most popular features, but the exchange column has not proved to be popular with our members.

Each publication usually has its own rules regarding the writing of queries. The Genealogical Register has. They are:

1. Queries should be typewritten, double-spaced.
2. Send queries on a sheet or sheets separate from the covering letter or other material.
3. Begin the query by listing all surnames, in the order in which they appear. Use our printed queries as a guide.
4. Write in complete sentences. It is difficult for us to organize notes or outlines, or census tables, strive for clarity.
5. Study the printed queries and follow our particular style or writing. For example, we write out "married" rather than abbreviate it to "m^x." "born" and "died" are also written out, as are "county" and "parish". Months spelled with more than five letters are abbreviated, states, when used with the name of a town or county, are abbreviated,

as in "Baton Rouge, La." But we would write "Baton Rouge, Louisiana".

6. End the query with your name and address, written on a single line.

When submitting a query, it is necessary to abide by the rules laid down, and proper attention should also be given sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation. Some publications will not accept queries unless they are written correctly. The Genealogical Register has a query editor who is responsible for such factors. Each query is given a number. When replying, refer to the number.

In the case of queries, the writer is seeking information; however, usually he will have complete family data as far back as his query, and not infrequently will have information even further back on the family. This is especially true when the writer is merely seeking a "missing link."

On the other hand, in the case of an exchange column, the writer is volunteering to give information on a certain family, and frequently will have complete data, at least on his own line, as far back as the colonial immigrant to this country, or even further. In either case, when one is collecting general family data it is always well to contact everyone advertising, because one never knows what additional information the writer might have.

There are a few rules of etiquette which should be observed for best results when corresponding for genealogical information.

1. The letter should be short. It is not necessary to give entire family history. To help the writer of the query or exchange notice identify the branch under discussion, merely give your own line, complete with full names and dates.
2. The letter should be clear and concise. State exactly what information is being sought. Do not ramble.
3. Be courteous. The letter should be courteously phrased, and the offer to exchange data should be made, if the addressee wishes.
4. A self-addressed and stamped envelope should by all means be enclosed whenever a reply is requested. This is one of the unwritten rules of etiquette in genealogical research.

There are many genealogical periodicals which can be consulted. Many states have one or more publications. Louisiana, for instance, has the Genealogical Register; New Jersey has the New Jersey Geneösis; North Carolina has the North Carolinian. Then there are several periodicals of a general nature. The D.A.R. Magazine has been one of the best in this category until very recently. I have obtained more information from this source than any other single periodical, I have also been disappointed to see the query department cut this year. Anybody can submit queries to the D.A.R. Magazine, not merely members.

Another excellent source of a general nature is the Genealogical Helper Annual Exchange number, published each September by the Everton Publishers in Logan, Utah. I have also personally found this

periodical quite helpful. While the D.A.R. Magazine has a query column, the Genealogical Helper is most noted for its exchange feature, though it also has a few queries. Queries are usually printed free of charge in periodicals.

The curator of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society can help find a regional periodical, or an active genealogical department in a library could. Another way to find out would be to write the archival facility (usually the department of archives and history) of the state in question. Every state in the Union, save Louisiana, has some sort of archival facility. After hearing the Honorable Wade O. Martin's speech last night, perhaps we can look forward to the time, not too far distant, when Louisiana will also have an archival facility.

ANALYZING GENEALOGICAL PROBLEMS

Charles E. East
Eaton Rouge, Louisiana

I hope none of you who have studied the program and noticed the topic by my name will expect any magic formulas. As far as I know, there aren't any. In arithmetic, two and two is always four. In genealogy, two and two is sometimes five. And occasionally ten! Those of you who have done family research - and I imagine most of you have - know that no two problems are exactly alike. That is a part of the challenge. To meet that challenge, one genealogist goes about it in one way. Another goes about it in another way. There is no universally right or wrong way. It is up to each person to develop and utilize his own technique.

There are certain generally accepted procedures, of course. You've heard some of the other speakers describe them. Russ Williams has just told you about the use of census records. Yesterday, Miss Colbert gave you some very specific ideas on organizing your materials.

What we have been asked to do - the speakers on yesterday's panel and today's - is to suggest certain ways of doing things. Most of the suggestions have had to do with research itself, the gathering of material, the sources of material. And, as Mrs. Polk pointed out, primary sources are the basis of all accepted genealogical research. Obviously, before you can get anywhere with your family history, you're going to have to dig up the facts. That means family Bibles, old letters, wills, long hours spent poring over a court record or rummaging through a truck full of papers or checking a strip of microfilm. Names. Family relationships. It takes work - hard work. And, I don't need to tell you, it has its rewards.

But for too many genealogists, the work ends there. They have the pieces to the puzzle. Some of them. They put them together. Those that fit. The rest are put aside. Or left to clutter up notebooks and file cabinets. I believe it was Miss Colbert who yesterday said that what you often end up with is a mess.

Yet, gathering the material - the pieces to the puzzle - is actually only a first step. The next step - and the one that too many genealogists never take - is what I like to call speculation. Call it by another name. Theory. Guesswork. Guesswork can be dangerous, too. The genealogist must be ready to guess but willing to prove that his guesswork is correct. He may speculate, and he should speculate, but he must put his speculation to the test.

There are, then, three distinct steps: ONE, gathering the material, which is the basis of research and which will probably

keep the genealogist busy for the rest of his life; TWO, speculation, which involves analyzing the material at hand and coming to certain conclusions about it, and THREE, the proof of the pudding - the test. If it stands up, accept it; if not, discard it.

The second of these steps is perhaps not as important as the first. But it is important enough to sometimes make the difference between the genealogist and the good genealogist. Research may give you sixty or seventy or eighty - or even ninety - per cent of your answer. Speculation - the right king - may give you the other ten or twenty or thirty per cent.

In working with others who are interested in genealogy, over a period of some ten or twelve years, I have been impressed with the fact that some of those who appeared to have the most success were those who had the most imagination. I don't mean, of course, that they imagined great-grandfathers where no great-grandfathers were. What I mean is that they were willing to take an educated guess, that they had certain working theories about some or all of their lines.

On the other hand, as I've already indicated, there are those who have gathered some of the facts, and who are looking for more facts, but who have done little or nothing about adding two and two to get four or five or whatever. They have an ancestor's name. They have a date or two. The name of his wife. But they had no real notion of who he really was. They are waiting for the next fact. They get that fact. They wait for the next, and so on.

Some of you who are wondering right now about this business of speculation have no doubt done a bit of it yourselves, it might have gone something like this: great-grandfather's middle initial was B. Mother said you were kin to the Byrds of Virginia. Great-grandfather's middle name may have been Byrd. You begin to look among the Byrds. Now, it's entirely possible that great-grandfather's middle name was Blake or Bowman or Brown. But by speculating, and by following up your speculation, you at least are ruling out another possibility. This is oversimplified, of course.

I have found it profitable to use a technique which is not too far removed from the writer's method of getting to know his characters. There are certain novelists who will not sit down to begin their novel until they know all there is to know about the hero, the heroine, even the minor characters. It is not enough to have the story in their mind; some keep elaborate card narratives.

The technique which I am suggesting is roughly comparable to that. For years I kept letter files crammed with names, dates, notes copied here and there, clues sent by other genealogists. I had all of this material, and yet somehow nothing jelled. Then one day I got out my files on one particular line. I began to organize the notes. To copy what was known. To put a probable by that which was probable. To put a possible by that which was possible. Then I sat down to speculate, to formulate my own idea, my own theory about that particular line. I found that in writing it down, and in putting it in narrative form, for the first time I had a clear, or relatively clear, idea of what/who these people were. It was guesswork, of

course. Some of it fact; much of it only possible or probable. But at least it was something concrete, something to be proved or disproved. It suggested completely new avenues of research.

I discovered I had only explored the avenues that were known, or that were taken for granted. I'm sure that many of you have made the same discovery. I hope that others will be encouraged to try.

What do you use in arriving at this theory, this speculation? Anything and everything. Even the most insignificant details. They may not be so insignificant after all. The stories that grandmother told you as a child; postmarks on old letters; scraps of writing tucked away in family Bibles along with pressed flowers and the black bordered obituaries. What was your ancestor's relationship to the others of the same family name in the county or parish or community? Were John Smith, the merchant, and George Smith, the planter, brothers? Having failed to solve the mystery of John Smith through John Smith, try approaching the problem through George. What state did your ancestor migrate from? You think Georgia? Try Georgia. If nothing turns up, look elsewhere. But look! How did he come? The route he took may be important, especially if he came in stages and stopped off in another state along the way. Speculate. Take your speculation into the courthouse, into the library. Your objective is to prove it. It may take years. You may never prove it. If you are smart, you will try another theory in between.

The danger of speculation, of course, is that you may mistake the fiction for the fact, and that having committed yourself to a theory, you hesitate to prove it incorrect. Don't. Be prepared to put it aside readily, if the evidence justifies. Study your notes again in light of the new material. Come up with another theory. That, it seems to me, is what genealogy is -- or should be. Trial and error.

One other word of warning. Be extremely careful in what you accept as fact. Publication in a book does not necessarily guarantee authenticity anymore than publication in a newspaper is a guarantee of factuality. I'm sure you have all had occasion to question something that appeared in the press and had a friend reply, "Well, it says here in the paper . . .?" I work for a newspaper and I say that newspapers can be wrong. It's remarkable, in fact, that they are right as often as they are.

Another of the speakers -- I believe it was Mrs. Polk -- has pointed out that no longer can family tradition be trusted. Grandmother was a wonderful person, but her memory may have been a bit hazy. Keep in mind what she told you, but don't take it as infallible.

Every printed genealogy I've ever had occasion to study in detail had errors -- typographical and otherwise -- but the most graphic example of the fact that publications can be wrong is Goodspeed's Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Louisiana, which at the same time is one of our most valuable sources of genealogical information. Its principal value, of course, is that it was published in 1892 -- more than sixty years ago -- and that, consequently, most of the subjects of its sketches were born early in that century.

Biographical and Historical Memoirs is crammed full of information - good for clues if nothing more - but any genealogist who quotes it for proof is on dangerous ground.

Analyzing your genealogical problems, adding the two's and two's, may not be as exact a science as arithmetic, but it can be a great deal more fun. Anyone who reads detective stories, works crossword puzzles, or goes off to look for buried treasure should have a go at it.

TAX LISTS AND CENSUS REPORTS

Ernest Russ Williams, Jr.
Bogalusa, Louisiana

To the average person, the common Tax List, and all Census Reports up to 1840, are of no value, BUT to the amateur Genealogists, they are a gold mine. One simply has to learn how to interpret what they find.

It is very true that the records or information given is limited, but even the scant recordings can be useful. Now the question may arise - - - How?

As all persons interested in this Hobby know, the Census Reports for the years 1790 - 1840 did not give anything but the name of the "Head of the House." It gave in age brackets, the number in the household, as well as the number of slaves owned. Now to tell "HOW" these reports can be valuable:

- 1st: They serve as a guide on where to look for a family, more or less pinpointing the county in which to search.
- 2nd: It gives the number in a family. You may have omitted a member. It can help in accounting for all members, unmarried at the time, as well as some that might have died in childhood.
- 3rd: It will give an approximate age for each member of the household.
- 4th: It will give the death date (within a ten year period) for many persons.
- 5th: To be taken very broadly: To trace the movement of a family.
- 6th: An added feature of the 1840 Census: It listed all Veterans of the Revolution living at that time.

Those are a few things that you can depend on the numerated Census Reports for. After 1840, the United States Census became a thing of real value. With that report, each member of the family was listed by name, with their age, sex, and place of birth (state or country.) It even gave reference to the Education status and health condition in many cases, as well as, occupation for all heads of families, and for many within the family, especially if they were self dependent. This type Census was taken for the years 1850, 1860, and 1870.

It can be stated that a Mortuary Census was taken along with the Federal Census for those years mentioned above. This record was only for the year preceeding each counting. You may be able to find the death of a sought for ancestor in these reports. It gave such data: Cause of death, Doctor attending person at time of death, and the witnesses.

The Census Report taken for the year 1880, was a great deal different from those taken in previous years. In that year, the place of birth for each parent of every counted person was given. For example: Father's birth; Georgia: Mother's birth; England: Person's birth: Louisiana. All other information remained the same, with the exception of the 1870 census. With the 1870 and 1880 Federal Reports, the color of the person had to be given. That information or data is important now in eliminating persons of the same name.

The Pitfalls of the Numerated Census Reports:

Several reasons can be listed on how the Reports from 1790 - 1840 can be confusing, or how they will be of little value to the researcher:

- 1st: Several persons may be listed with the same name in the same county and state.
- 2nd: The husband might have been deceased, and the widow giving the report. In this case, most time she will be listed as "Widow Smith," etc.
- 3rd: The older members of the family might be living with a younger son or daughter; therefore, being nothing more than an unaccountable number in another household.

It is quite evident that the last two reasons are final, nothing can be done about it. The first one is a bit more promising. It will encounter a great deal of work, but it must be done if you are to have your tree correct. The county where each person with the same name was living, must be searched, and the process of elimination used. This can be done through Land Records (deeds, etc.) Marriage Records, and known family connections. Never "adopt" an ancestor, prove that he is yours.

As a closing note on the Census Reports: It is very important that you follow your county formations. A family might have been living in a certain county, and in the next report he is not present. The chances are a new county was created, and now that family has a new address, but same old home place. Remember that in the years where you are searching, America was in a formation period. Nothing remained the same for a very long period.

"The Tax List"

The Tax List can be of the same value as the Census Reports, if not more. The only major difference in the two is that only the head of the house was listed on the Tax List, or best stated, only the taxables were listed. These lists will probably be of more assistance in tracing the movement of a family than the Census Records, because the Poll Tax was collected every year in comparison with the Census every decade. This will clearly illustrate where the family was year after year, and will show the exact year that they disappear from a certain area. Many States have not preserved such records; therefore, another great avenue of data has been lost. It is important to state that many parts of the country depend on the Tax List as the substitute for missing Census Reports, as an example: Several Counties in North Carolina: some Counties in Virginia; and all of the State of Georgia (Census missing for 1790, 1800 and 1810.)

Just How are Tax Lists helpful, and How do I interpret what I Find!

- 1st: It gives the place of residence, county, town or exact locality.
- 2nd: It will give the exact number of acres that the person owned. Also the quality of said land, the number of vehicles, and in some cases the amount of live stock, and number of slaves.
- 3rd: You can determine the age of the "Head of the House" by following the list yearly. (to explain further: Know the Poll Tax Law of the State in which you are working. It is important to know when the person reaches the age of Tax Exemption, 60 or 65 years. Example: John Smith paid a Poll tax in Amite County, Mississippi for years, 1815-1826. In 1827 he ceased to pay the said tax. Several years were checked to make sure that it was not an oversight; therefore, he reached the age of 60 years in the latter part of 1826, or early part of 1827. (This John Smith is fictional.)
- 4th: It will give the death year of the person in many cases. (Use same process as above.) The Estates will be mentioned unless fully settled.
- 5th: The husband might be deceased, but if the widow is living, she will be listed by name (Mary King) in most every instance.
- 6th: Tracing the reports for several years in a row, will prove if the person were an actual resident of the County, or just a transient.
- 7th: When two or more are listed together, one might be the son of the other. Generally the older will have more property, and probably pay no Poll Tax. This in many cases will eliminate or identify each one listed.

If you will use these suggestions, I personally think that you will find the information therein obtained to be very valuable, especially in many Counties in Mississippi where all County records have been destroyed by fire.

Where to find such lists:

Louisiana: The Parish Court House, probably will be in the attic.

Mississippi: All Tax Records are on file in the Archives Department, Jackson, Mississippi.

Georgia: Tax Lists of Georgia printed by Ruth Blain in 1926.

Printed List of All Tax Lists that were filed in the Office of Secretary of State.

Many Tax Lists are on file in the Archives, Atlanta.

Many Counties have retained their records.

North Carolina: Many have been printed in North Carolina Register.

Many in Volume 22 of North Carolina State Papers.

The greater majority of Tax Lists for the State are on file in the Archives in Raleigh, North Carolina. A few Lists are still to be found in the Counties.

Virginia: Printed in the various Historical Publications such
as: William and Mary Quarterly
Virginia Historical Magazine
Tyler's Quarterly

Quit Rents of 1704 are published.

Alabama:

South Carolina:

MATERIALS IN THE ARCHIVES

Vergil L. Bedsole
Archivist and Head
Department of Archives
Louisiana State University

The Department of Archives of Louisiana State University, housed at the present time in the Law Building, was created officially in 1936 by an act of the Louisiana Legislature.

At that time the holdings of the Department consisted principally of historical and literary manuscripts acquired by the University in earlier years. The act of 1936, however, also empowered the University through its Department of Archives "to receive and collect public records and documents and materials bearing upon the history of the state, to edit and publish records and other historical materials, and to make a survey of the official records of the state, its parishes and other subdivisions."

The present holdings of the Department consist of about 900,000 items of historical and literary manuscripts and business and professional records, 1,050,000 items of noncurrent public archives, 50,000 items of University archives, and 250 cubic feet of research and inventory materials of a former Federal archival project in Louisiana.

This collection of some 2,000,000 items constitutes the most valuable assembly of manuscript Louisiana in any archival or manuscript depository in the nation. The rich holdings of the Department attract historians, biographers, novelists, scholars and other researchers from all over the United States and some foreign countries. The collection is a source of strength for the University graduate program in historical aspects of speech, fine arts, geography, education, law, medicine, agriculture, social welfare, French, Spanish, German, journalism, English, sociology, music, forestry, economics, library science, and other fields in addition to American, Southern, and Louisiana history.

The historical and literary manuscripts and business and professional records are the most valuable and actively used materials for research. They consist principally of personal, legal, and business papers of planters, merchants, doctors and other business and professional men and of political and military figures. The papers include letters, diaries, account books, travel journals, speeches, sermons, poems, photographs and similar materials pertaining to the economic, social, political and military life in Louisiana and neighboring states of the Deep South from colonial times to the present day. The number of those materials in the Archives collection has grown in the past ten years from fewer than 200,000 items to more than 900,000 items. That collection is used principally for scholarly research in the writing of

theses, dissertations, articles, books, and other studies, especially by student and faculty members and other researchers. The genealogical value of those papers is slight, and the large size of some of the major collections, ranging in size from a few thousand items to as much as 100,000 items, is a factor to be considered in some aspects of research. In most instances, any pertinent genealogical information in family papers in the Department has been extracted by the family concerned for its own family history and record.

The large body of University archives and related material is a rich source of information on the history of LSU during its formative years a century ago and during the administrations of Presidents Thomas D. and David F. Boyd, whose papers span three quarters of a century of administration at Louisiana State University and education in Louisiana.

The principal University records useful for genealogical research are registrations of students. Those records are not in the Department of Archives but have been retained by the Registrar of the University.

Historical and literary manuscript collections and the University archives are described in a summarized form in a card catalog in the Department. Other finding aids to those collections designed to facilitate research include a file of related accession inventories and a card catalog of name-place-subject cross reference entries.

Public records in the Department of Archives consist of noncurrent records of several state departments and agencies, chiefly in the period 1865-1924, and noncurrent records of six parishes, principally Caddo and East Feliciana.

State records include correspondence and related materials of the State Department of Education, Board of Control of the Lepers Home, Railroad Commission, Department of Agriculture, and several other agencies. These records are part of the large body of materials left by some state units in their move from the Old to the New State Capitol in 1932. The materials were sorted and arranged by the Historical Records Survey of the former Work Projects Administration in the period 1936-41. The records were removed from the Old State Capitol to Louisiana State University in April 1938 by the Historical Records Survey under the supervision of the present Archivist of Louisiana State University, then the Baton Rouge District Supervisor of the Survey. The materials were transferred to Louisiana State University for research purposes and physical preservation. They were saved from destruction in the municipal incinerator by less than 24 hours! A small quantity of state records have been acquired by the Department since 1947. Lack of space and other factors have prevented any major acquisitions of such materials since 1938.

The body of state records at Louisiana State University pertain principally to administrative and related matters and are not of great value for genealogical purposes. They are used chiefly for graduate research in education, agriculture, transportation, and similar subjects. Major bodies of state records valuable for genealogical purposes--such as military, pension and land records--are not in the Department of Archives but have been retained by the respective state agencies.

Parish records in the Department of Archives consist chiefly of some of the original case papers of local courts of six parishes,

principally for the period 1820-75. Those records were transferred to Louisiana State University for preservation and research purposes. There are no indexes to the case files in the Department of Archives. The related docket, minute, fee, and similar books with their indexes to the cases or proceedings have been retained by the respective clerks of court for current administrative purposes. Some parish records at Louisiana State University, such as probate and succession case papers and related records, contain information of value for genealogical purposes. Much of the information in those records is available also in records in the offices of the clerks of court, including docket books, minute books, recordings of some succession proceedings, etc. In order to use the case files at Louisiana State University it is necessary in most instances to first obtain from the parish courthouse the docket or case number by which the case is filed.

Marriage records, conveyance records, mortgage records, oaths of allegiance, oaths of office, and similar parish records of prime genealogical interest and value are not in the Louisiana State University Department of Archives but are retained by the clerks of the court in the local courthouses.

Research and inventory materials of the former Louisiana Historical Records Survey, a nation-wide archival project sponsored in this state by the Department of Archives of Louisiana State University, include surveys and inventories of state, parish, and local archives; church archives; manuscript collections; newspapers files; and similar materials located in such depositories as public offices, libraries, newspaper offices, etc., in Louisiana. Those surveys and inventories were prepared during the period 1936-41 and are summary in form, giving at the time of preparation the location, quantity, inclusive dates, and related information of the materials.

Several inventories of the more useful records for research purposes were published, and copies of those publications were deposited in local courthouses and libraries in Louisiana and in major libraries throughout the nation. Some of those published surveys and inventories are useful to the genealogist because they provide information concerning the beginning and ending dates of certain extant records in Louisiana, their location and quantity, and the manner of arrangement and filing. The inventories provide only that general information concerning a record series, such as a marriage or a mortgage record, and do not give names of specific persons.

(A Survey of Federal Archives in Louisiana was sponsored in the pre-World War II period by the Louisiana State University Library. Copies of its inventories and of some transcriptions and translations were deposited in libraries and Federal and state agencies in Louisiana.)

The major growth in acquisitions by the Department of Archives in the past decade has been paralleled by a steady increase in the research use of the collections. Research activity averages about ten times its pre-1947 record. Increased use is reflected in research by Louisiana State University faculty and students, other Louisianians, and out-of-state researchers from about 30 states and some foreign countries each year. Genealogists have shared substantially in this over-all increase in research and reference service. A few years ago the Department of Archives at Louisiana State

University was perhaps the principal source in the state from which genealogists could secure information on pertinent archival and manuscript materials in the state and nation. Most of the genealogical inquiries received by the Department are from former Louisianians or their descendants living in other states and pertain to military services, property ownership, vital statistics information, etc. Inquiries of that type cannot be answered from the Department's records, but in most instances it is possible to refer the inquirer to the appropriate agency or source where the desired information may be found. Much of this assistance is being furnished in recent years by genealogical sections of public libraries and genealogical societies in the state such as the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society which is making a major contribution to genealogical research by giving invaluable service and assistance to its members and to others in the field of genealogy.

LOUISIANA ROOM

Lucy B. Foote
Louisiana State University

When the Louisiana State University Library was re-organized in 1927 after a new librarian, Mr. James A. McMillen, was appointed, a beginning was made to assemble books about Louisiana. Since most of the titles about Louisiana were scarce and out of print, many of these books were shelved in the Treasure Room of the Library with the other rare books. Not until 1936, however, was there a separate collection of Louisiana books organized under the care of Mrs. Ruth Campbell. This early collection contained many books on the Civil War, and about the neighboring Southern States, in addition to the Louisiana Books.

In 1945, and again in 1950, definite policies governing the Louisiana collection were set up by the Library Council. Under these policies a limited circulation policy was inaugurated, and the scope of the collection was restricted to books about Louisiana and to works of literature by Louisianians. Much of the material on other states, and the multiple copies of popular titles were transferred to the shelves of the Main Library. This transfer of non-Louisiana books is still proceeding. From 1936 until her untimely death in 1952, Mrs. Ruth Bates Campbell, was the librarian of the Louisiana Room. It is due to her zeal that the collection is as complete as it is. The extensive clipping file of local subject interest is a monument to her in itself.

The growth of the Graduate school at LSU, and the number of visiting scholars from other institutions of learning have affected the use and definition of this collection. Now we are faced with an entirely new environment in the new Library building, and again the Louisiana Room policies are being discussed with this impending change in mind, and very likely changes will be made to adapt to the new situation.

Presently, the Louisiana collection of the Louisiana State University Library is located in the Louisiana Room. It is an integral part of the University Library. It is not in any way responsible to, nor supported by, any teaching division of the University. The research done within the Louisiana Room by graduate students is 60% to 75% in other subject fields than Louisiana history. The geographical area is the chief criteria of the materials within the Louisiana Room. The 300's, the social sciences, exceed in number of volumes any other classification. Standards for the selection of materials, and for the use and administration of this collection, are not limited to one or more subject fields.

The subject scope of the collection is determined by the

geographic area rather than any specific subject field. A Louisiana salt mine, or oil well, or sugar plantation is as much Louisiana as any novel written by a Louisianian, or any history of Louisiana. The Louisiana Room is a reference and research collection of books, pamphlets, maps and clippings related to the state of Louisiana. Materials in the Louisiana Room are 75% non-circulating.

The collection of books in the Louisiana Room now consists of 480 shelves of books or approximately 14,000 volumes. Of these the largest subject field is found in the social sciences, education, commerce, government, state documents, etc., a total of 162 shelves, or one-third of the collection being in this group. History and travel books about the state come next, there being presently 135 shelves of works on these subjects. Within the history classification there are three shelves of biographies, and one shelf of genealogies. Local history titles are scarce in book form. Most of the biographical and local history material in the Louisiana Room is contained in the Vertical File. This is a collection of newspaper and magazine articles clipped and filed under subject. Since the Louisiana collection was first organized as a unit within the Library in the year 1936, the Vertical file was started at that time, and is necessarily limited to articles published since that year. There are no newspapers, or census reports, and no manuscript records in the Louisiana Room.

Mrs. McNeir has included in her list of genealogical materials the genealogies, biographical dictionaries, and other sources of genealogical data now located in the Louisiana Room. To these may be added certain compilations of the Survey of Federal Archives. Copies of these titles are to be found in New Orleans, and also at the Louisiana State Library. The "Pintado Papers," "Crew Lists, 1803-1825," "Passenger Lists, 1839-1866," "Ship registers, 1804-1870," are typical of these works. They are carbon copies of typewritten manuscripts compiled from manuscript records by the WPA in the late 1930's and early 1940's. They are seldom indexed. They are available for use within the Louisiana Room. Another source of records of our French and Spanish ancestors may be found in the volumes of the Louisiana Historical Quarterly which contains many articles transcribing records made during the Spanish regime in Louisiana.

Research in genealogy is frequently as detailed and lengthy as that done by the graduate student. It is a specialized technique, often baffling to the layman. To those who have the technique and the time to devote to it, genealogy is a fascinating field of study. There is no doubt that genealogical material may be found in the Louisiana Room by those who have the technique and the time to make use of it.

MATERIALS IN HILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mrs. Corinne McNeir
Louisiana State University

I have a confession to make: though a librarian, I am beginning to be interested in genealogical research.

As I heard it yesterday, librarians are the archenemies of genealogists. This is not really true. If genealogists are really scientific researchers, librarians are very willing to help. What really annoys the librarian is not the genealogist but the person who wants to find out something about the family tree but has no idea of how to do it. Such a person often makes what I call the "My Aunt Sally approach." It goes like this:

Library patron: My Aunt Sally always said that her Uncle Harry was named after her great grandfather, who was a colonel in the Civil War -- though he was on the other side. Now I want you to get me all the history of it.

Librarian: (She can't want all the history of the Civil War. I'll try something more specific, such as her great grandfather's role in the Civil War.) You said, "On the other side." Do you mean your great grandfather was on the northern side?

Library patron: Oh, no! Harry! On the other side of the family!

I feel that there is something I should point out about the university library and the university librarian. The primary function of the university library is to support the university's program of instruction and research, and the university librarian's first responsibility is to the university's student body and faculty. Furthermore there is no urgent reason for a university library to build up a genealogical collection except as it may relate to the university's curricula and research program. It follows, therefore, that there is no particular reason why the Louisiana State University Library should have a rich genealogical collection.

I have prepared an inventory of our holdings in genealogy. This has been distributed among you. It should perhaps be called a "partial inventory," for it is strictly limited to the categories listed: bibliographies and indexes, registers, periodicals, collective genealogies, and family genealogies. Not included are books about the science of genealogy -- though we have some; books dealing with personal names -- though we have many; books and periodicals in the field of history -- though here you can fairly well assume that we have anything you want, when you remember that Louisiana State University offers graduate work in every important field of history; and biographical works are not included -- though we have a great many, general

and collective biographies as well as special and individual biographies. Also not included are the Library's holdings in microfilms of census schedules, about which I shall speak later.

As for specific items on the inventory, I should like to point out a few of special interest. The first and most useful, in my opinion, is the first on the list. This is The American genealogical-biographical index to American genealogical, biographical, and local history materials, edited by Fremont Rider. So far, since, 1952, 21 volumes have been published, covering Aabrey to Bumpus. When completed, this work should be the answer to the genealogist's prayer. I have brought a sample volume, which you may want to examine.

Among the registers, one of the most interesting, to me, is Hotten's Original lists of persons of quality; emigrants; religious exiles; political rebels; serving men sold for a term of ten years; apprentices; children stolen; maidens pressed; and others who went from Great Britain to the American plantations, 1600-1700 ... from mss ... in the public records office, England.

The Louisiana State University Library is very weak in genealogical periodicals, though it has all the important historical periodicals.

Among the collective genealogies, noteworthy for those who want to trace their ancestry back to the English peerage is Cokayne's Complete peerage of England, Scotland, and Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom, extant, extinct, or dormant, 13 volumes published so far and almost completed.

In the listing of family genealogies the entries are under family names, and special note should be made of the fact that the spelling of these names follows that of the Library of Congress. Since nearly every library uses Library of Congress cards in its catalog, it seemed best for me to use the spelling used by the Library of Congress.

The Louisiana State University Library also has some useful microfilm holdings, consisting principally of population schedules of the various censuses. Many of these have been given by the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, and we are grateful for them.

For Louisiana, as you might expect, we have the widest holdings: the complete population schedules of the censuses from 1810 through 1880. We also have for Louisiana the "Original returns of the Assistant Marshals of persons who died in Louisiana during the year ending June 30, 1850" and 1860, 1870, 1880. For Arkansas, we have the same sort of list for 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880. We have incomplete population schedules for Alabama, 1830 and 1850; Florida Territory, 1830 (nearly complete); Georgia, 1830; Mississippi, 1830, 1850, 1880; Missouri, 1850, 1880; South Carolina, 1830; and Tennessee, 1850. In printed form we have, of course, since we are a depository for United States government publications, nearly all the census publications of the United States, including Heads of families at the first census of the United States taken in the year 1790 (12 vols.)

Finally, I have checked on the titles mentioned by Mrs. Fletcher yesterday afternoon and have found that we have nearly all of these.

All that we have, you are welcome to use.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY

INVENTORY OF GENEALOGICAL MATERIALS:

BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND INDEXES, REGISTERS, PERIODICALS,
COLLECTIVE GENEALOGIES, AND FAMILY GENEALOGIES.¹

January 1, 1958

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¹ Not included are books about the science of genealogy, books dealing with personal names, books and periodicals in the field of history rather than genealogy, and biographical works even though they may give genealogies incidentally. Also not included are the Library's holdings in microfilms of census schedules.

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